



## COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

*By Scott Brigham, January 2005*

As many of you now know, there has been a change of guard at the Wayzata Yacht Club. Mark Janda, after three years of distinguished service to you, the members, is moving to Rear Commodore status. It is with great respect that I communicate our sincere appreciation to Mark for his years of dedication, leadership, and enthusiasm for conducting the business of the WYC. Mark will be joining the Wayzata Sailing Foundation as a board member and will be assisting the new Wayzata Sailing School as they begin their first year of educating young sailors out of the WYC station. We will most likely see more evidence of Mark's commitment to the WYC and to the sport of sailing through his new duties with the WSF. Thanks again Mark!

After three years as a Board Member, and another three years as your Vice Commodore, it is now my honor to serve as your Commodore for the 2005 sailing season. I can't think of a better time to take the reins of the "premier" keel boat racing club in the Midwest. Our participation is strong, our fleets are growing, and the club is financially sound. The WYC is nationally recognized for excellence, and we are continually the topic of articles in nationally distributed magazines. In periodicals such as *SAILING* and *Sailing World*, you will find pictures and articles of our youth events and programs that highlight how the WYC is truly "on the cutting edge" of organized sailboat racing and sailing education.

My lovely wife, Jennifer, and my two wonderful daughters, Alex and Robin, came from California to Minnesota 13 years ago.

We ended up here after first living in Las Vegas, Miami, and Dallas while doing the corporate move-around gig. We jumped off the bus in Minneapolis, I started working for Lloyd's Barbeque Company, (hence the ribs you have all been eating) and joined the WYC family. The club truly became our extended family. We bought a Mirage 24, and called Scott Spaeth who welcomed us immediately, and stated that "we had bought into the best fleet at the club...the Midget Ocean Racing Club". I had never raced sailboats. I had only sailed sabots as a kid while growing up in Newport Beach. Jennifer had grown up racing Santana 22's with her family in Oklahoma and then in Fresno, California. We told Scott we were just interested in the sailing, but we would think about the "racing thing". Well, we were on the line for the tune-up race with Scott Spaeth at the helm (I was too freaked out), and Gary Rolek on Knardly, blasting Star Wars music on his stereo right after the gun. I knew we were in for fun, and thought "these guys are totally crazy". Jennifer and I didn't miss a single race for the rest of the season...literally...not a single race. We were taught the ropes by people like Bob Lutnicki, Dick Jackson, Jack Christopherson, Dave Onan, Kevin Hovey, Dave Crum and Ernie Brody. After learning on the Mirage, Jennifer and I bought our first J/24, USA 1022, and Dead Reckoning. We then began racing at the very back of the J/24 Fleet. After buying a newer boat, J/24, USA 4738, and seven years in the fleet, I'm still smack dab in the middle. Hey, I'm still having a great time!

*continued page 11*

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

*Banquet and Awards Report*

*Silent Auction Report*

*Wayzata Sailing School*

*Advanced Rules Seminar*

*Thai Boat Project*

# A GLITTERING EVENING BY THE RIVER!

By Steve Bren

Our 2004 Awards Banquet took a giant leap forward this year in style, function and of course, fun! Firstly, Merry Beth Hovey found an exciting new location at the Pavilion on Nicollet Island. With a beautiful decoration theme, a drop dead gorgeous view of the falls and downtown, easy in and out access, it turned out to be the perfect space for the descending hordes of festive sailors and guests to honor one another. Merry Beth then enlisted her erstwhile and talented husband, Kevin, to book exciting new talent and set up a state-of-the-art sound system and P.A. for the awards and dancing. Arranging a four-line buffet was also new, efficient and well received. The research survey from last year garnered some helpful suggestions in the way that this banquet was organized. It was decided to shorten the awards announcements by mentioning only the top three or four achievements and cropping boats who did not have any attending representation. This, along with a better sound system and more attentive crowd (except for those with a severe case of ADD), produced a nice ceremony to honor the sailors and members who worked hard all year to earn the special recognition given them. One highlight was John Rainaldi's comments asking everyone who insisted on talking over the presentation to please be respectful for the short time we take each year to honor WYC special awards recipients. There is a fitting circus tent, adjoining the pavilion awaiting those next year that believe the banquet is all about them to commingle in. All in all a very satisfying and delightful evening was had by everyone attending. With Tom Elsen's help and insistence, almost every fleet captain showed up to set up the trophies and glassware. A smoother, quicker or more visually esthetic display setup has never been accomplished in club banquet history. Dallas Johnson (our venerable photographer with the artist eye for action and color) put out some truly smashing photographs in a crisp digital format that made every boat look like rock stars. Wayne Bren contrived a registration and seating system (with assistance from Craig Lofgren), that with the help of the fabulous Snyder sisters and Shaina Brown, got everyone in their place - although it was like herding cats at times. Thank you to our M.C., Bert Foster, our new commodore, Scott Brigham, and his daughters, Alex and Robin, Mark Janda and everyone else who worked so hard in making this years banquet a great success. Special accolades should definitely go to Merry Beth Hovey for overseeing the entire banquet organization, which consumed much of her time from December 2003 through November 2004, and without whom this event would still have been echoing from the walls of the I.M.S. Thank you, M.B.

## *Commodore's Special Award*

**The Commodore's Special Award** was started by past commodore Bob Slocum in 1980 to recognize help that he received in the years of low water at the yacht club. **Selection:** This award is an adjunct to the Bail Bond Trophy, to be awarded by the commodore for special service to the club. It is not necessarily awarded every year, and is intended to be reserved for special occasions where an individual or group of individuals performs in an outstanding fashion. This year the **2004 Commodore's Special Award** was awarded to **the Wayzata 150 Committee** comprised of Dee Geary, Don Sundell, Greg Grassle, the MWST and many others for their representation of Wayzata Yacht Club during the city of Wayzata 150th year anniversary celebration. Dee, in particular, met with the City and designed and sold T-shirts and catered lunch to 300+ visitors at the club. The other recipients selflessly provided hundreds of sailboat rides for a line of curious and excited guests - extending the length of D dock at one point. They all showed us off as the good neighbor to the city that we are. Thanks to all these winners, our best public relations day was made possible and was fun for all!

## *Bail Bond Award*

The Bail Bond Award was given to the Wayzata Yacht Club in 1966 by an anonymous donor to be presented to our first Commodore, Walt Brantingham. The award is called the Bail Bond Trophy because the City of Wayzata issued a warrant for Walt's arrest for illegally mooring his yacht at the WYC. Fortunately Walt's boat was moored in front of his house. Walt with the Club's attorney sued for false arrest and the City dropped the warrant. **Selection:** The Bail Bond Trophy is to be awarded by the Commodore to the person who has demonstrated the greatest love, spirit, and care, for the Wayzata Yacht Club. This trophy is not necessarily awarded every year and is reserved for recognizing individuals for extraordinary efforts. **Steve Mulich** ("Women's Work" MORC III, #2001) was awarded the **2004 Bail Bond Award** this year as most deserving, for what else? Just being Steve, which is as all who know him, is huge. He is always the guy to lend a hand, explain things in a way the new sailors understand or help put up a stick or drop one. He has taken literally, hundreds of new crewmembers on and instilled in them a sense of accomplishment and self-reliance. Also, the club thanks him for his work putting in the crane, helping make it operational and helping our members how to use it without any fear. Thank you from the entire club, Steve!

## *Andy Crew Award* By John Loomis

**The Andy Crew Award** was given to the Wayzata Yacht Club by Ross Bishop in memory of his brother Andy Yender. Andy died crewing on Ross's Etchels 22 in Lake Michigan at the Chicago North American Championship. **Selection:** Traditionally, the Andy Crew Award has been given to an outstanding crew member and then that crew member would get together a committee of previous "Andy" winners to select the recipient for the following year. This is the 26th year this award has been given. This year's recipient is an outstanding crewmember. This person has raced competitively at both the Wayzata and Minnetonka Yacht Clubs the early 1990's. Not only is this individual an outstanding and skilled sailor, but someone who is fun to sail with, always demonstrating a competitive winning

attitude, interspersed by elements of humor which prove to be infectious with the rest of the team. I can personally attest, having been a co-crewmember during a couple of recent high profile regattas, that this is a person anyone would want on their boat. In fact, many sailors ask this person to make a "guest appearance" on their boat to share knowledge and skills, and he most often unselfishly agrees. Please allow me to list a few accomplishments. In the early 1990's he sailed a variety of MORC 2 and PHRF 1 boats and advanced his skill level by competing in both National and International events. His sailing included numerous Bayfield Race weeks on a Frers 53; Trans-Superiors, Chicago and Port Heron Macs on a variety of boats including a Santa Cruz 70; many match racing area qualifiers at Lake City; PHRF, San Juan 24, Melges 24, E Scow, J/22, 210 National championships; J/22 and J/24 World Championships in the US and abroad. This experience was a prelude to scow racing in the Inland Lakes Yachting Association an MC, C, E, and A classes. In 2002, he won the class "C" ILYA Championship at the Oshkosh Yacht Club on Lake Winnebago, overcoming some of the most challenging "big" water racing conditions existing in scow country. This 2004 season's results again demonstrate the contribution and high level of performance that this individual brings to his program, as an integral part of winning the highly competitive WYC J/24 Championship Series. To demonstrate this sailor's versatility, he has become an accomplished helmsman finishing near the top of both J/22 and J/24 regatta fleets at home and on the road. This year's recipient belongs to a well-known sailing family and continues to promote our sport with today's youth. For example, he initiated his 6-month old son this summer to his first taste of competitive racing as extra crewmember during a champ race, (by virtue of a "no-show" baby sitter). He insists that this was OK with his wife, although we have not received verifiable confirmation from her. Join me in congratulating and honoring this year's **2004 Andy Crew Award winner - John Peterson!**

### *The Foster Trophy*

**The Foster Trophy** was donated in 2002 by Dale "Dirt Ball" Anderson to honor Bert Foster for his 30 years of outstanding Race Management contribution to the WYC and in future years it is to be awarded to recognize other outstanding race management contributors to the WYC. **Selection:** The Foster Trophy is awarded by the Chairman of the WYC Race Committee to a person who has made a great contribution to the WYC's Race Management. It can be awarded to a person for years of service, to a young Race Officer for making great progress toward becoming a Principal Race Officer, or to other deserving contributors to WYC's race management. This trophy is not necessarily awarded every year but is reserved for recognizing outstanding individuals and their contributions to race management. It is donated in honor of Bert Foster's 30 years of outstanding race management at the club and it is appropriately named the Foster Trophy. What Dale recognized for years, and what we will all recognize and honor tonight, is that the realization of this founding vision is not possible without world class race management. It is race management that sets the schedule, teaches us the rules, sets the courses, starts the races and changes the courses. Race management protects us from the weather, measures who wins the races and judges our disputes. It is race management that guarantees us that race after race and season after season, we all have a fair, equal and just platform on which to test our racing skills. With great appreciation and gratitude from WYC and all its members, the **2004 Foster Trophy** was awarded to **Blake Middleton** for his steadfast efforts at race management and mentoring our up and coming race officers. He is a consummate professional who takes great pride in his work both on the water and off. He can be seen scoring, often in the midst of a party at the clubhouse, dealing with difficult questions on the water in some ugly conditions and patiently explaining scoring to confused members all the while dealing with MS and making it all look easy. We all love his announcements, sarcasm on the water, sense of humor and charm. The Wayzata Yacht Club would be a hurtin' unit without you. Thanks, Blake!

### *The Sportsmanship Award*

**The Sportsmanship Award** was donated to the Wayzata Yacht Club in 1968 by Paul Geyer. Paul was an active sailor in the club at that time, and created the award to recognize another sailor who he felt had "hung in there" and competed under circumstances that would have been overwhelming for most people. **Selection:** This award has been given for both a single act of sportsmanship or on-going sportsmanship behavior on and off the racecourse. The **2004 Sportsmanship Award** was awarded to **Sean "Sean Man" Hendrickson** by his inspirational doggedness and organization of the fun and exciting "Match Racing Mondays" at the club on Wayzata Bay. Sean, along with his lovely wife, Nicolie, conceived and sold the board on the match racing idea, tirelessly cajoled boat owners to allow their boats to be used by talented strangers on Mondays. Many sailors took part, vastly improving their sailing skills in the process. It is born of fire, and is sure to be a big hit in 2005 because this great guy, who while helping raise two children, still found time to take a great idea and turn it into reality. Well done, Sean!

### *Doc Sam Award*

**The Doc Sam Award** has been donated in memory of Doctor Sam Solhaug who died in 1996 and who was a long time and original member of the Wayzata Yacht Club. Known to all as Doc Sam, he loved sailing and would spend the majority of his free time from spring to fall sailing. He also enjoyed racing and had a persistence and "never quit" attitude that was more important than winning and that he instilled and encouraged in others. **Selection:** Awarded annually to the sailor selected by the WYC race committee as one who has demonstrated Doc Sam's love of sailing, love of racing and in particular his persistence and "never quit" attitude during races. **Dave Bennett** ("Hellfire", J/24, #2909) and his crew deserved this prestigious award, more than anyone, for their earnestly charging forth tirelessly to challenge the J/24 Fleet, hardly ever missing a race and very decisively moving up in the ranks of competition and winning. For their tenacity, good humor and admirable attitude, they deservedly were awarded the **2004 Doc Sam Award**.

## ***Boat of the Year***

**The Boat of the Year Trophy** was donated to the Wayzata Yacht Club by Quiet World Sports in 1975. It is to award both excellence in achieving first place finishes and a participation award for sailing many races. It originally came from a time when the yacht club only had a few fleets, and at the end of the year they took the two or three leading skippers in each fleet and had a sail-off in Ensigns. As the club grew, it became difficult to get borrowed boats, so the sail-off was dropped and instead was given to the boat with the most first place finishes during the season. **Selection:** Starting in the 1993 season, the first place finishes are weighted by the number of participants for that fleet in each race, and is awarded to the boat that accumulates the most points. The 2004 Boat of the Year award was presented to **Frank Rainaldi and his wife C.J., John Rainaldi and Chris Andert** (who are second generation sailors at WYC) of "Amity III", Sonar, #25, claimed top honors by winning more races than anyone else in the entire club during the 2004 sailing season. Not easy to do in a tough fleet of other Sonars, including Sesame Street, Gusto, Encore, Zataway and others. What a slugfest! A truly crowning achievement by some great sailors.

## ***A.I.S. 2004 Special Awards***

**Corsair** - Model of J. P. Morgan's yacht built in 1895, awarded since 1958 to the best club finisher in the 66-mile Around the Islands race. **Champosa.**

**Commodore's Trophy** - Awarded annually to the best place club finisher in the Lake Superior Yachting Association Offshore Series. **Chippewa.**

**Boat of the Year** - Awarded annually to the yacht with the most number of first places during the year. **Chewbacca.**

**Martini Award** - Awarded annually to the best placing yacht in all the season's events. **Chewbacca.**

**Bayfield Doc Sam Memorial** - Awarded during Raceweek to a recipient who supports Bayfield racing.

**In Memory: Charlie Erickson.**

## **SILENT AUCTION – 2004**

*By C.J. Rainaldi*

Silent auction proceeds from the 2004 WYC Annual Awards Banquet topped \$8,500, due in huge measure to Meghan Nimmer, Auction Chairperson. WYC thanks Meg as well as all the WYC sailors who donated goods and services and who bid on those items in support of the Wayzata Sailing Foundation.

One twist in this year's fundraiser was the opportunity to buy a key for \$20. One hundred twenty-five keys were purchased; the one owned by Joelle DeCarli opened the lock protecting a gemstone ring donated by Meg Nimmer. That ring was again the center of attention later in the evening when Joelle realized on the dance floor that it was missing from her finger. The lights came on, and dancers turned to scavengers as everyone pitched in to look for it. After an hour of looking, no one had yet found the ring. Joelle gave up and sadly headed for the exit...only to spot it on the floor by the coat check!

Meg Nimmer has committed to chairing the 2005 auction, which is an invaluable gift of time to WYC. Kudos, again, to Meg for chairing the 2004 auction AND for agreeing to chair the 2005 auction. In addition, the WYC membership thanks the many University of Minnesota Sailing Club members, who helped Meg transport donations, set up tables and auction items and unite winning bidders with their purchases.

**CHALLENGE:** Think now about what you might donate for the 2005 auction. It's not too early to "regift" some holiday item that you know you won't use. It's not too early to donate an unused item to the Wayzata Sailing Foundation. It's not too early to buy some unbelievably great discount sale item and make it a sail item for the auction.

## MINNESOTA WOMEN'S SAILING TEAM SPONSORS WINTER RACING SEMINARS

By Danielle Anderson



For those of you who like to “Relax & Win” with a “Strategy for Tactical Risk Management” whether it’s in “Big Fleet Racing” or small we have a seminar for you. Please join the Minnesota Women’s Sailing Team and Gordy Bowers as we start off the sailing season with our annual Winter Seminars. Hope to see you then!

**Thursday, January 13, Gordy Bowers "Prepare to Win: Get Ready for the Coming Season"** – There is much more to a successful racing program than showing up on race day. Gordy Bowers discusses what you can do now, and continue throughout the season, to guarantee results on the racecourse both at WYC and at the big regatta.

**Thursday, February 10, Gordy Bowers "Sailing Lake Minnetonka"** – Gordy has been sailing Lake Minnetonka all his life and understands how the local geography affects the racing winds. In this seminar, Gordy discusses what to expect and how you can take advantage of local wind trends.

**Thursday, March 3, Gordy Bowers "The Starting Line: Five Steps to a Great Start"** – Learn how to warm up, test conditions, develop a plan (and a plan B) before the starting gun goes off. Gordy discusses what you need to do to have a great start every time.

*Gordy Bowers is a sailmaker, former coach of the U.S. Olympic team and winner of many national titles in many different class boats.*

**TIME:** 7pm – 9pm

**COST:** \$20.00 FOR EACH CLASS OR \$50.00 FOR ALL THREE

**LOCATION:** Wayzata Yacht Club

**If you have questions please email:** Danielle Anderson, Commodore MWST at [mwst\\_training@yahoo.com](mailto:mwst_training@yahoo.com) or visit <http://www.mwst.org> for more information.

## 2005 WYC TRAINING BROCHURE AVAILABLE

By Bert Foster

Thanks to the fine work of Beth Frampton, the 2005 WYC Training Brochures are available at the Clubhouse, and one is included in this mailing for you use or give to a friend or associate. Part of the WYC mission is to promote the sport of sailboat racing with comprehensive training programs. This brochure certainly provides for training available for all levels of interest from the “never sailed before” to “experienced racer” to “for women by women”. Read the brochure, mark your calendar for yourself, and give it to a friend, work associate or neighbor who may have expressed an interest in sailing or racing. This is a wonderful way for them to get started. The WYC is not a snooty place and readily welcomes beginners and particularly welcomes and values CREW members. We do not advertise the May “On The Water Training” - **because if the general public realized that for the modest fee of \$20 they could get breakfast, a 45 minute seminar on racing, a 2 hour sailboat ride included a sailboat racing drill, all you can eat lunch, and all you can drink pop and beer the club would be overwhelmed with attendees.**

### **Host Skippers Receive the Highly Valued Green Hat with the WYC Wavy Logo**

Plan now on being a Host Skipper on 2 of the 3 Saturdays and receive a hat. The Club needs volunteers to bring their boats and take out the “Crew Looking For a Ride” attendees to introduce them to sailboat racing. It is a wonderful way for members to fine crew for the season. The attendees run the full range from very experienced crew who moved into town to people who have never sailed. Members tell us that it is really a fun thing to do.

### **Guest Instructors Receive the Highly Valued Red Guest Instructor Hat with the WYC Wavy Logo**

Plan now on being a Guest Instructor on 2 of the 3 Saturdays and receive the famous red guest instructor hat. The club needs volunteers to be onboard a skipper’s boat to help them through the training drill. For years, guest instructors have told us it has been a very rewarding experience.

## ADVANCED RULES SEMINAR

Friday, February 11, 2005 from 1800 (6:00 pm) TO 2200 (10:00 pm), at the WYC, with Bert Foster and Cliff Black (Regional Area Judge for Area K). This course is designed for more advanced competitors, i.e. "intermediate level" (3-5 years racing as a tactician) who want to move up to "Black Diamond level" and "Black Diamond level" who want to move up to "Double Black Diamond level". Students in this seminar are expected to have a good working knowledge of Part 2 (When Boats Meet) of the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) and desire to understand advanced US Sailing interpretations of the rules themselves and how the "Appeals Decisions" impact what you can and can't do on the race course. This Seminar will also cover the "Changes" in the RRS for 2005. The WYC is delighted to have Cliff Black, a very experienced senior US Sailing Judge, come from Chicago for this seminar. This seminar is \$40. Send check to address below.

### ***US Sailing Judges Workshop and Examination:***

This is for sailors who have an interest in becoming a certified US Sailing Judge. You will have the opportunity to take the workshop and the test. The workshop will be given by Cliff Black, a certified US Sailing Senior Judge and our Regional Area Judge, plus several local US Sailing certified Judges.

#### **Workshop Schedule:**

##### Saturday February 12th

0800 Coffee and rolls

0830 Workshop Begins

1200 Lunch is provided

1500 Afternoon break with snacks

1700 Finished for the day

##### Sunday February 13th

0800 Coffee and rolls

0830 Review Begins

1100 Exam Begins

1400 Exam Ends

#### **Workshop Details and Registration:**

Workshop includes coffee and rolls each morning, lunch and afternoon snacks plus workshop materials  
Judge candidate fee is \$40 and includes the test on Sunday.

#### **Mail your check with your personal information, name address, phone, etc to:**

Wayzata Yacht Club  
Judges Seminar  
PO Box 585  
Wayzata, MN 55391-0585



A US SAILING Judge is qualified to judge any local or regional event in the US. To be certified as a Judge, one has demonstrated a thorough knowledge and understanding of the current racing rules, and the protest process. They also must possess judicial temperament, a reputation for mature judgment and have an outstanding reputation for integrity. Additional requirements include experience in race management and significant experience as a racing sailor. Judges must attend a workshop and pass a written test prior to becoming a judge and again each time they re-certify. Judges are certified for a four-year period. See [http://www.ussailing.org/judges/judges\\_program.htm](http://www.ussailing.org/judges/judges_program.htm).

## WAYZATA SAILING SCHOOL

*By Ross Siemers*

I wanted to update everyone on the status of the Wayzata Sailing School. We all have worked hard on this and it's great to see things coming together.

First, Cappy Capper will be our Director and Head Coach starting January 1, 2005. As you know, Cappy has over 21 years of experience in the sailing industry, and has been director of LMSS for the past ten years. He is the head coach of the University of Minnesota sailing team, and started the high school sailing programs here in Minnesota eight years ago. He is the recipient of numerous US Sailing awards for program excellence, and is a Level II instructor trainer, meaning he teaches racing coaches how to coach. He is one of 11 Level 3 US Sailing Certified Sailing Coaches in the country. We are fortunate to have him on board and welcome his enthusiasm for our kids.

Also, Brent Ostbye will be back in March as our head racing coach. Brent will be spending the off season working on his sailing education, and working again at the Ft. Lauderdale Yacht Club as an Optimist coach. Brent, Cappy and I will be attending and presenting at the National Sailing Programs Symposium, US Sailing's education conference (Yes, dear, it's a conference) in Miami this week. We're looking forward to getting in the water next spring.

Interscholastic sailing with the U of M team and the high school sailors will start shortly thereafter, or before, ice-out.

The summer racing schedule for next year will be very similar to the one we had at Wayzata last year. Opti racing will be in the mornings and 420/Laser racing in the afternoons. Racing starts June 13th and ends August 5th, Monday through Friday. We compete locally in the Twin Cities Youth Sailing regattas, hosting the Mike Plant Memorial Regatta July 1st. We also travel to regional regattas, and will be competing in US Sailing's youth champi-

onship ladder events for the Sears-Bemis-Smythe and Sears trophies.

We will host our fourth Midwest Junior Olympic Sailing Festival on June 18th and 19th. Be prepared to volunteer for this one. Jappa has already agreed to head up the race committee.

We'll also have full day Sailing Camps each week from June 13th through Aug 19th for kids who want to learn to sail, in both Prams and 420s, for ages 7 to 15. Let your friends and neighbors know about the camps, it's a great way to introduce kids to the sport.

### **Contact information for the school is:**

**Email: [WayzataSailing@aol.com](mailto:WayzataSailing@aol.com) (Cappy Capper)**

**Phone: 952-476-5875**

**Website: [www.WayzataSailing.org](http://www.WayzataSailing.org)**

The phone is in the shed, so it won't get answered, but encourage your friends to leave a voice mail if they want information, or to be put on the mailing list.

AND FINALLY, our Capital Fund Drive has been a HUGE success. Through many generous donations, we have already raised over \$85,000 towards our goal. The new 420s, all eight of them, were delivered last month. We now have the newest fleet in the area. This will really help get the program off the ground. We're not done yet, so if any of you want to make a contribution, contact Cappy or me.

We plan to mail out brochures on January 13th, so if you don't get one in January, let me know. Spread the word, and have a short winter.

*Ross Siemers*

*Director, Youth Sailing*

## CRANE FEES

*By Tom Elsen*

You should note a new, simpler (and we think much better) policy regarding the WYC crane in 2005. After some experimentation with a 'fairly' complicated set of procedures in 2004, we hope that you will appreciate the new SIMPLE 2005 WYC CRANE PROCEDURES!

- A \$100 fee appears on your 2005 Mooring Statement
  - This fee covers put-in, take out, and unlimited use of the crane for your boat
  - All crane users will receive a swipe card in their name
  - Cardholders may use the crane at any time during operating hours
  - We will still offer assisted put-in and take-out days at no extra charge
  - The crane is to be used for your boat (at the club) only
  - Crane privileges are not transferable to another person or another boat under any circumstances
  - The fee is not mandatory for trailer launchers who do not intend to use the crane
- Pay the \$100. Get assisted put-in and take-out + use the crane any time you wish. Simple, no?

## MARINA MOORING FEES

By Tom Elsen

Dear fellow members - The board of directors settled on a 2005 fee increase that is a few percentage points more than we've all become used to. It is not something we expect to continue. However we thought you should know the reasons for this increase, especially after such a long time with very nominal escalation.

**For the years 1998 through 2004 your board held total membership fees (mooring + club dues) to an average increase of 3% per annum. That's 3% per year for six years running. The 3% increase is barely above the rate of inflation and isn't sustainable for the club.**

We were able to keep fees artificially low for two key reasons: Our revenues were higher than 'normal' due to power boats and some cruisers in the marina. These folks paid (close to) market rate for their slips. They've been replaced with racers. As a consequence, revenue from those slips declined about 40%. In addition, we chose not to accrue funds to refurbish our clubhouse and grounds. When we paid off the mortgage, our interest expense declined. We 'spent' that money keeping fees low. But since we did not accrue club improvement funds, the decline in expenses was overstated. It's a bit like not saving for home improvements and acting like you're richer because of that. Essentially we need to catch up, just a little bit, in 2005.

We think it's important to stress that fee increases have NOTHING to do with the crane or the Sailing School. The crane will be self-funding via user fees. The Sailing School is not an expense item for WYC. In fact, it has a separate board and a wholly separate budget.

It is also true that we have VASTLY IMPROVED Wayzata Yacht Club during the time we held the line on fees. We have better facilities, better programs, better participation and more support. What do we mean? Well, let's look back because it's easy to forget these things...

### ***Better facilities***

- A new upstairs deck on the clubhouse
- A new patio on the lawn, with fireplace (Maybe the best improvement at WYC since the clubhouse was built)
- New patio furniture (Good stuff, not Target plastic)
- More parking in the upper east lot - a big, big deal for most of our crews
- The crane
- New patio plantings, west lot plantings and outdoor lights
- Upgraded docks with lights and electricity easily accessible to everyone

### ***Better programs***

- The new match racing program
- 'New' committee boat (Bailiff One)
- For most events, two race support boats on the course
- More management personnel on the race course to insure accurate scoring
- Tuesday Laser racing
- Hugely expanded youth programs. Optis, High school and College teams

### ***Better participation***

- More slips now occupied by racers
- Now, routinely we have 120+ boats on Thursdays
- Both on-the-water and classroom training participation increased

### ***More support***

- New (custom-designed) scoring program
- Let's not forget what a great addition Blake has been to the race management team
- First-rate website with up-to-date scoring and program information
- Emails, in addition to newsletter, to communicate important, time sensitive information
- Much better bookkeeping, billing and customer service



Taking into account the 2005 fees, our average annual increase will be under 4% per year for the 7 years 1998 - 2005. Under 4%! That is still a bargain, in anybody's book. Especially when you consider prices at other marinas. WYC fees are 50% of their rates!

## WYC 2005 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

At Wayzata Yacht Club's annual meeting November 13, 2004, new board members were elected to take the helm for the next sailing season. Welcome to Judy Woellner as a new director this year. A heartfelt thanks to all who give of their time and brilliance to making a difference at the club. Following are the members comprising the Wayzata Yacht Club 2005 Board of Directors:

### **OFFICERS**

Scott Brigham	Commodore
Merry Beth Hovey	Vice-Commodore
Dutch Bull	Secretary
Merry Beth Hovey	Treasurer
Mark Janda	Rear Commodore

2005-  
2006

### **DIRECTORS**

Ross Siemers	Youth Sailing
Tom Elsen	Awards
Bert Foster	Race Committee
Ernest Brody	Membership
Dee Geary	Social Committee

Dallas Johnson	Communication
Nicolie Hendrickson	Director
Judy Woellner	Director
Jonathan McDonagh	Apostle Islands Station
Pat Maloney	Wayzata Sailing Foundation

The Board meets monthly. Club member suggested agenda items may be emailed to the Commodore at [commodore@wyc.org](mailto:commodore@wyc.org) for inclusion at the next scheduled board meeting.

### **DID YOU STEAL THE BANQUET DECORATIONS?**

Overly enthusiastic, thieving club members stole nearly half of our banquet decorations after the banquet this year. The significant cost of these items is justified only by using them for many years and we can't afford having them taken. Return these to the clubhouse immediately or mail them to WYC, P.O. Box 585, Wayzata, MN 55391. We've declared amnesty for the next couple weeks, but after that the banquet committee is gathering a posse. If you would like to purchase your own oversized burgee, contact Mark Oppen of Oppen Enterprises at 952-471-9053 or [oppen\\_enterprises@hotmail.com](mailto:oppen_enterprises@hotmail.com).

### **MOORING/CRANE FEES**

All those previously mooring in the marina received a mooring invoice in December for the 2005 sailing season. By now, you should have paid your \$500 deposit, which was due by January 10th. Contact Steve Bren if you are not planning to moor at the club this year. Also, remember to pay your unlimited use crane fee (new this year) and the balance of your mooring fees by February 28th to avoid having your mooring sold to a BIG waiting list!

### **NORTH COAST COMMUNITY SAILING**

*By George Hansen*

I'm on the board of our local sailing school, North Coast Community Sailing. We are looking for instructors for next summer. We provide lodging and pay \$10.00 to \$12.00 per hour. Maybe a university or High School student would like to spend 8 weeks in Bayfield teaching sailing. Sounds like a fun getaway of teaching, learning and adventure. We start July 1, 2005 and run through August 30, 2005. We teach in 4 communities: Red Cliff, Bayfield, Washburn and Ashland. Our big program is for kids, but we also have an adult and college program with Northland College. We are also looking for used boats, 420's and Opti's, cheap. Any help by fellow WYC members or acquaintances would sure be helpful. George Hansen can be contacted at 715-779-5656 or at [Cservice@cheqnet.net](mailto:Cservice@cheqnet.net).

### **TROPHIES**

Unclaimed trophies, photos and glassware are at the clubhouse. Please stop by sometime during or after the holidays to pick them up.

## THAI BOAT PROJECT

*By Bob Bye, PHRF III Fleet*

Dear Wayzata Yacht Club Members.

When members of WYC PHRF learned about the “Boaters for Boats” project that Black Bear Yacht Racing Association (White Bear Lake) was doing to help fishermen who lost their boats and livelihoods in the tsunami, we thought that members of WYC might like an opportunity to contribute as well.

This is an opportunity to make a meaningful contribution by helping purchase fishing boats that will be made in Thai villages and then given to local fishermen. This provides direct relief through meaningful employment of Thai boat makers and a return to economic stability for fishermen and their families.

The Twin Cities-based American Refugee Committee has received significant attention lately for these efforts. Their overall goal is to replace at least 320 boats. These boats are similar to the “Old Man and The Sea” boats and cost \$500.00 each. You can learn more about the American Refugee Committee on their website at [www.archq.org/BoatFund.shtml](http://www.archq.org/BoatFund.shtml) or by visiting the several links at [www.wyc.org](http://www.wyc.org) related to new stories.

The Black Bear Yacht Club stepped up early and has already collected enough for several boats and I think we can do better than that. We will be tracking club donations by fleet and posting the [www.wyc.org](http://www.wyc.org).

**To contribute:** Please make out a check to the “American Refugee Committee” and send it to Bob Bye at the address listed below before February 4th. Please include your fleet in the memo field so that your fleet is properly credited.

**Mail checks to:** Bob Bye - 4810 Rustic Way, Shorewood, MN 55331 - by February 4th.

Hope you will help. I cannot think of a better way to support our brothers and sisters on the water.

## WESTERN SAILCRAFT

*SAIL REPAIR SERVICE*

Western Sailcraft has agreed to be the new pick-up/drop-off sail repair service for Wayzata Yacht Club. The process will be similar to what we've used in past years with pick-up and drop-off in the WYC Clubhouse. All club members need to do is fill out a tag with your name, phone number, and a hint of what is wrong with the sail. Attach tag to sail and Western Sailcraft will pick them up on Monday morning to repair and return your sails by Thursday afternoon. Tags will be available in the WYC clubhouse near the computer kiosk. We are also available to assist with on-site rigging, splicing and repair work for your sailboat. Please call us to discuss these repairs with us. Western Sailcraft has been making and repairing custom sails and canvas for over 25 years. Services include sail and canvas repair, new sails and canvas work, running rigging, splicing and sail hardware. Doug Carlson is owner with over 28 years sail making experience. Tim Carlson has been in the sailing industry for over 15 years. With the loft located at his house in Jordan, Doug can keep Western Sailcraft's overhead costs low and service reasonably fast. Western Sailcraft also repairs sails for Seven Seas, Hoopers Yachts, Blue Waters Sailing School. We look forward to being your premier sail repair service.

### **Western Sailcraft**

21195 Xanadu Avenue  
Jordan, MN 55352-9687  
Phone: 952-492-6028  
Fax: 952-492-5620  
Cell: 612-272-1493

Website: [www.WesternSailcraft.com](http://www.WesternSailcraft.com)

*continued from cover*

Jennifer and I were a bit preoccupied last year and didn't spend as much time racing our J/24 as we normally would have. We made the big leap and bought a Valiant 40 Cutter down in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico last year. In May, I gathered a few guys from the WYC, Jeremy Bowen and Kevin Hovey, and flew them down to Mexico to help me provision and sail the boat up to San Diego for future trucking to Bayfield. Twelve days, 1,200 miles, eight cases of Pacifico, and a few meals of SPAM, eggs, sausage and SPAM later, we arrived in San Diego with three cans of cold beer, and the title to a beautiful go anywhere boat, PENDRAGON. She's well equipped, has been across the Atlantic twice, and is one of the most seaworthy boats ever designed by the legendary Bob Perry. Our family spent the majority of the summer putting her back together and having some fun up in the Apostle Islands. Look for a future article in the WeatherMark on the adventures of PENDRAGON'S BAJA BASH. What a trip!

Now you know a bit about your new Commodore. How is the club doing? We are doing great. As many of you know from the announcement at the awards banquet, the Wayzata Sailing Foundation has created and funded the new Wayzata Sailing School. The school is funded by grants from the Wayzata Sailing Foundation and through fund raising activities and grants from members of our club and the general community. The School has hired Cappy Capper as its new Director / Head Coach. Cappy has sailed everything from an Optimist to 60 foot yachts. He is nationally known in the youth sailing community as one of its most competent and dynamic forces. His is a US Sailing Level Two Master Coach and Trainer and a Level Three Certified Coach. He has been a member of the National Junior Championships, member of the Youth Championships Committee, member of the Training Committee, and Regional Training Coordinator. The Wayzata Sailing Foundation is very fortunate to have Cappy Capper as its new Director. As of the writing of this update, Brent Ostby, a Level 1 Certified Instructor and a fixture at our club for the past few years, will join the staff as well. The WSF now has 18, 420's, 5 Lasers, 10 Optis, 8 Prams, 8 canoes, and 5 coach boats. The school will offer programs for ages 7 to 17 years to include one week, all day camp sessions. In addition to assisting the new sailing school, the WSF will support programs ranging from the U of M Sailing Team, the Courage Center, the Inter-City Youth Program, and the Twin Cities youth Sailing Regatta. This new direction for the WSF is big, and the WSF will only fulfill its mission to increasing youth sailing opportunities with our assistance and volunteer spirit. Please remember, the WSF and the new WSS are not funded by your dues. Please talk to Ross Siemers, if you would like to give of yourself (or of your money) to our new sailing school. We will most likely need volunteers for upcoming youth events. If there was ever a year to encourage your kids, your friends kids, your brother's kids, or your bosses kid's to learn to sail, this is the year.

As you probably noticed, we added a line item to your mooring bill this year. Rather than charge the membership each spring and fall and sell cards for everyday use, the Board voted unanimously to add the crane fee to the mooring bill and give every member a swipe card at no charge. You will still need to be trained for the use of the crane, but the fee structure has been rescinded and the use has been opened up for your convenience. Clean your green slimy hull...please! The crane was not built as a revenue generator. It was built as an improvement to the facility and an added convenience for the membership. The annual fee, which we pay anyway for put-in and haul-out, will assure a timely pay down of the crane expense.

We have raised the mooring fees this year to catch up for some inflationary pressures and increased use of the facility. Our fleets are larger, the membership is growing, and the club is seeing more use at an ever increasing rate. Our costs have gone up for maintenance, insurance, and other line items, and our revenue needed to keep pace. We will likely not need to raise fees at this rate as a yearly practice, but if you look at our annual increase over the past seven years, including the raise for 2005, we have kept the annual increase at 4% per annum. The WYC still provides quality dockage at half the commercial rate of Lake Minnetonka. This is a great deal! If you have any questions or concerns regarding the rational of our budgeting, please give me a call. It's your club.

I look forward to a great year of sailing at the WYC. I plan to encourage the Board through actions and deeds to continue to move the club in our current direction. This is not a one person show. Your entire Board of Directors, now joined by new Board Member, Judy Woellner, is committed to making this the very best yacht club in the Midwest.

Let's go sailing! Soon as the ice melts.....

Scott Brigham  
WYC Commodore



Wayzata Yacht Club  
P.O. Box 585  
Wayzata, MN 55391

*Forwarding Service Requested*

PRESORTED STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
MINNEAPOLIS, MN  
PERMIT NO. 4656

## REGISTER FOR THE E-WEATHERMARK

Last year, when we started this e-mail service, we auto registered everyone in the club logbook who had an e-mail address. But now that we're up and running, it's a self- register deal and you're on your own. Don't forget to spread the word and remind your crew and new club members to register! Registration is as easy as clicking the "E-mail Lists @ Register Here" icon at <http://www.wyc.org>, then selecting the lists you would like to join and registering. Or go directly to <http://www.wyc.org/list-server-reg.htm>.

**WEATHERMARK** is a regular publication for the members and friends of Wayzata Yacht Club. It is usually published quarterly, with Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter issues. The WEATHERMARK depends on, and welcomes, your contributions for its articles, updates on fleet and regatta news, classifieds, etc. To submit news, stories, sailing experiences, cartoons, classifieds, or offer suggestions contact **Steve Bren** at 612-701-3230, [Scbren@mn.rr.com](mailto:Scbren@mn.rr.com) or [steve\\_bren@yahoo.com](mailto:steve_bren@yahoo.com).