

Commodore's Comments

By Scott Brigham, January 2006



While I know it doesn't feel like sailing season yet, there is already a great deal of work underway by your Club Manager, the Race Committee, the Board of Directors, and the Officers of the Yacht Club to ensure a great year of sailboat racing at the Wayzata Yacht Club. 2006 is shaping up to be yet another strong year of race participation, national level regattas, charity events, and yes... coldies to celebrate your weekend warrior battles.

All kidding aside, there is a lot of work to be accomplished during the long Frigidaire® winter months of Minnesota. The WYC Board of Directors, the WSF Board of Directors, and the Sailing School Director have all been hard at work developing plans, schedules, planning regattas, meeting with the city of Wayzata, and in short, just doing good work on your behalf. With that said, I would like to take you through some of the Yacht Club projects we have completed, or are in the process of working on.

By unanimous decision, the WYC BOD elected to convert the upstairs apartment to an office for the Wayzata Sailing School. The office will serve as a small workspace for Cappy Capper, our Sailing School Director, as well as provide a tight little classroom for the students. We have re-carpeted the space, repainted and created a secure room for the sailing school computers, files and equipment. In addition, the office has been set up with a magnetic board, tables and chairs, and will serve as a private room for use by the protest committee to adjudicate our protests. No more sitting in a crowded corner with a butt in your face, and an elbow in your ribs, with a competitor's burly line-puller huffing and puffing waiting for his chance to tell his side of the story. Wait outside please!!!

We have been continuously working with the City Planner of Wayzata and the Planning Commission on a PUD application (Planned Unit Development) that will allow the Club to improve our facilities to better serve our members and sailing school. This is tough work, led by our ever patient and gracious Rear Commodore, Mark Janda. Our plan revolves around developing a PUD that provides for expansion of our non-conforming structure (the club house), and for the construction of a boathouse for the sailing school, storage facilities, a gazebo on the island, as well as present a plan for the eventual closure of the launch ramp. This is a long process, but one that may allow us to improve our land use without having to go the Planning Commission and City Council each time we want to do something. We are planning ahead for things we want to do, or may want to do, and writing them into the PUD. Expect a thorough review of this project at the annual meeting. Cooperation with the City of Wayzata, its commissions and regulatory bodies takes time, patience and thorough preparation. The WYC is committed to this collaborative, win-win process.

We have a re-decorating committee that is working on re-painting the inside of the clubhouse, purchasing new furniture and improving the fireplace. We have a healthy budget to work with, and will provide the membership with a more comfortable and better functioning club this spring and summer. We are redesigning the turnaround to provide a better entry, and exit, as well as creating a new sign and landscaping that will beautify and simplify our entrance. One of those old electrical poles will soon be disappearing. The Banquet Team is exploring a new and exciting venue for our awards event. We will provide more news on this shortly. We are purchasing a new tent for our regattas, and special functions and will soon have web based payment options for our seminars, and other financial transactions. We will likely offer web based payment of dues, mooring fees, and all club related transactions by next year.

We have worked with the American Diabetes Association to move the ADA Regatta to the 17th and 18th of June. We are planning for more wind and greater participation from our membership with this move. The NOR is now on the website. Please plan on participating this year. Diabetes is the fastest growing, preventable disease in America, and you can help. You can either sit this out, or join in. It's up to you. We hope you will choose to come to the one regatta that proves to the greater community that the WYC is a good neighbor, and an asset to the city. We will have the Ice House again this year, great food and a band on Saturday night. Just about every Capri 25 at the club will be participating, as the Capri 25 fleet has decided to run their International Regatta in conjunction with the ADA. Come out and Sail for the Cure.

We have a great sailing season ahead. The J-22 North Americans, the J-22 Cool Cup, the J-22 Evergreen Cup, the ADA / Capri 25 International Regatta, the J-24 U-Gotta Regatta, and numerous youth sailing events are being planned as we speak. The MYC and the WYC are coordinating on a new evening party for the Burton Cup Race that's sure to please both of our memberships. We have Dave Perry coming to the club March 24th for an intimate tactics seminar, and book-signing event. There is a flyer in this WeatherMark to reserve your ticket. There are a limited number of spots available for this fun and interactive seminar. Don't wait until the last minute, as this event will fill up quickly.

Get prepared for a great year of sailing. With the ice as thin as it is, you may be in the water sooner than you think. See you on line.

Scott Brigham, Commodore
Wayzata Yacht Club

WEATHERMARK

MIDWINTERS RECAP

By Jappa

Kevin Kenny, Paul Burlingame and yours truly started this year's trek to the midwinter regatta in Houston on Monday night even though the regatta wasn't scheduled to start before Friday. We wanted to get a couple of days of practice in before the "action" started. The trip was long but uneventful and we arrived in a sunny and warm Houston yacht club on Tuesday evening. The boat was rigged that night and we had excellent sailing in southerly breezes and temps in the 70's for the next 2 days. Some much needed practice plus a bonus tune-up session with Terry Flynn was the reward before the start of the event.

The 2 other Minnesota teams; Dan Towey with Roger and John and Lars, Noller minus Rod Koomis arrived on Wednesday Night and Thursday night respectively. All boats had to be in the water by 10PM on Thursday night. The fleet ended up being 48 boats all being said and counted.

Friday arrived with temperatures in the 60's and good breeze around 15 – 18 mph. Rod was supposed to fly in to sail with Lars. But got stuck in Atlanta so Lars found a hottie foredecker in the club bar!!! The fleet is very competitive so recalls was had in every start. The courses were generally set very well although the first race was a little shorter than what we are used to. The day ended with an 8, 31 and 13 for Lars. Dan got 37, 26 and 32 and Jappa got 13, 18 and 19. We all vowed to do better on Saturday. Traditional Texas hospitality and some fine Mexican dining at the club rounded off the day.

We arrived at the dock on Saturday morning to a temperature of 42 degrees and breeze gusting to 30, sustained at 25. The race committee was talking wind-chill. It was decided after much waiting and discussion, all while watching a riveting game of curling, that the sailing would be abandoned for the day. The Minnesotans headed off, after a hotdog and burger extravaganza at the club, to sightsee NASA and the battleship Texas. Roger reportedly has big plans for next year's bird hunting season after test-driving some of the armament.

Sunday morning proved to be even colder but the breeze had come down to about 10 to 12 so the RC decided to send us out to race. The cold air temperature and the relatively warm water temps made the conditions somewhat challenging. Lars enjoyed the conditions (and the fact that Rod had arrived) and finished the day with a 4 and 8 to finish 12th overall. Dan showed equal improvement with a J-24 and a J-22, which landed him in 28th. Jappa finished the regatta with 20 and 14 and held the 18th from day one. Kelsom Elam won the regatta with David Van Cleef in second and Rob Jonston in third.

The trip home was also relatively uneventful except for some alleged ice storm that I apparently slept through.

All and all we all agreed that a fine regatta was had and it was definitely worth the drive. HYC proved to be an excellent host and nobody can really blame anybody for the weather. Besides, Kevin got to flaunt his furry hat to much envy from the Texans!

HEAVY AIR RACING OPTIONS UNDER CONSIDERATION

By Steve Bren

Have you ever stood on the patio at the club on a Thursday night or Sunday and watched the lake out there just rippin'? Seen the "bowling balls" of wind come rolling through? Perhaps you are short 1 or 2 deckhands or you've driven one, two or even three seasons and are a great skipper but are concerned about 1 or 2 of your crew not being ready for this type of weather. There are a lot of beginning and intermediate sailors in our club and when the wind is snortin' a worry comes across their faces when watching winds over 20 knots sustained. The primary goal of our club is to provide a racing environment allowing everyone an exciting, but fun, ride, and yet not terrorize potential future great sailors with broaches, death rolls, dismasting or sinking.

So, when does most of this chaos occur? During heavy air? Yes, you've got it. During the spinnaker launch, the jibes (where \$1,500 kites explode), travelers self-destruct causing plastic Harken bearings to become airborne shrapnel, forcing the trimmer to lose their footing, etc. Then there is the all important take down where halyards jam as a knot of spaghetti tries to force its way through a 1/2" x 2" slot in the mast, causing the hapless victims to go storming right past the leeward mark, streaking toward the shoreline with all sails proudly flying. You get the picture.

There are some fleets that want to use spinnakers all the time - and that's fine for the expert fleets and black diamond sailors, J/22, J/24, Sonars, etc. The Board and Race Committee are considering is no change for them, but for other fleets who still want to sail a Champ race without threat of death involved. The thinking is that perhaps those fleets could level race each other with no spinnakers for that particular race, which would still be pretty exciting for WYC sailors in heavy air. This idea could be decided fleet-by-fleet or written into our Sailing Instructions. In this way, all of our sailors, beginners and intermediate included, would continue to experience a great race without equipment damage or injury and trauma. We wish to know your opinions of this proposal. Please contact Bert Foster, Dallas Johnson, Scott Brigham, Merry Beth Hovey, Steve Bren or any other Board members with your thoughts. It's your club and becomes what we all make of it.

SILENT AUCTION – 2005

By Mary Foster

Silent Auction proceeds from the 2005 Wayzata Sailing Foundation Silent Auction at the WYC Annual Awards Banquet topped \$11,000, due to the generosity of the donors and the sailors bidding on the items. I would like to thank the many volunteers who made it all possible, Brent Ostbye and the U of MN Sailing Team, Carmella Zagone, Steve Bren, Wayne Bren, Shaina Brown, Robin Brigham, and Robb Harris. We continued the key purchase with a one-week Florida timeshare donation by Michael Martens. Chris Mackenzie bought the lucky key for a mere \$20. By this time of the year, Chris will have to use her tactical prowess from the racecourse to fend off the Bandits and other J/22 sailors for a spot in her condo! The crowd of 300 plus WYC members and guests also enjoyed over 140 items to purchase, many at fabulous bargain prices and just in time for holiday giving. Thanks to everyone who purchased the items. On average each couple purchased a Silent Auction prize! Several items sold for minimum bids with the lucky winner receiving it at 50% of face value. Think about increasing your holiday giving by spending at the 2006 Silent Auction. I personally know that Terry is excited about his Christmas present, an airplane ride over Lake Minnetonka!

Commodore's Special Award

By Scott Brigham

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 **2005 Commodore's Special Award** is being presented to a person who put's the goals, the education, and the development of life skills of "youth sailors" above his own. 2005 marks the inaugural year of the Wayzata Sailing School. The WSS based in our West Parking lot had a tremendous first year educating young sailors from the local area. Remarkably, the school:

- Held 10 weeks of sailing school summer camp sessions, teaching over 175 kids the joys of sailing
- We held two 4-week sessions of Racing Camp classes in Optimists, Lasers, and 420's improving the skills of 105 students.
- They Coached 14 college students from the U of M
- Coached 38 high school students in the Spring and 27 students in the fall
- The WSS held the Junior Olympics with over 97 youth sailors participating from all across the United States
- They WSS ran the Mike Plant Memorial Regatta with over 110 local youth sailors attending
- In total the WSS educated over 360 sailors 40 of them signing up for more than one class
- They organized and ran over 10 separate regattas at the Wayzata Yacht Club

This was accomplished by the efforts of many. However, without the single focus and passion of one man they would not have taken place. Among many other titles, the man I speak of is:

- A US Sailing Certified Level Two Master Coach Trainer (1 of 2 in the US)
 - He teaches coaches how to coach
- 1 of 3 Program Workshop Clinic Directors in the US
- Past recipient of "The Captain Joe Prosser Award", the highest award for sailing instruction in the United States
- Founder and President of the Midwest High School Sailing Association
- He holds many other certifications and positions....

With all of the listed accomplishments it is not about him. He's always told me, it's about the kids. It's always about the kids. Starting a new sailing school is not easy. But the KIDS would say, "IT WAS SURE FUN!" For his hard work in starting and running the new Wayzata Sailing School with passion and commitment to the kids, this year's Commodore's Special Award is presented to the Wayzata Sailing School's Executive Director and Head Coach - **Cappy Capper**.

Bail Bond Award

By Scott Brigham

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. In 2005 the Wayzata Sailing Foundation took on the task of starting, and funding our new Wayzata Sailing School. This was a monumental undertaking. 95% of their time and effort is directed towards the Wayzata Sailing School. With its tax-exempt 501(c)(3) status, The Foundation manages:

- \$47,000 in endowments
- \$137,000 Self funding Sailing School Budget

- \$192,000 in Assets
- And an Expense budget of \$35,000

In addition The WSF:

- Solicits individual contributions
- Assists Booster Clubs, Like the U of M Sailing Team
- Runs the WYC Silent Auction
- Petitions for numerous Grants and donations from the community

In 2005 the Wayzata Sailing School assisted by the Wayzata Sailing Foundation educated over 360 students, accounting for 400 student units. The School and the Foundation will end the year in the "Black". Costing you, the members, nothing, other than your tax-free donations. With an Income of \$38,000 and expenses of \$35,000 the WSF has been tremendous stewards of our Foundation - your foundation. Every member of the WSF Board does all this on a volunteer basis. For their dedication and tireless work on behalf of Wayzata Sailing School, and youth sailors in our area, this years **Bail Bond Trophy** is awarded to the entire **Board of Directors of the WAYZATA SAILING FOUNDATION**. They are: Ernest Brody, Mary Foster, Robb Harriss, Mark Janda, Pat Maloney, Beth Rosenberger, Ross Siemers, Leslie Skarra, Tom Tanner and Mark Dunsworth. A special thanks to Mary Foster for all her hard work on the Silent Auction.

Andy Crew Award

By John Peterson

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 crewmember and then that crewmember 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 years Andy Crew posses the highest quality of both on the water skills and off the water conduct. While projecting a tenacious drive to win, this person also manages to maintain a quiet, easygoing demeanor. It has been said of this person by both skipper and crew what a great asset this sailor is to the boat, the finish and the experience. This is a crewmember who may go unnoticed during the race due to his great skill and easily become the consensus MVP back at the dock. The bottom line; as Jack Nicholson said, "you want him on that rail, you need him on that rail". To try and list this years recipient's accomplishments would be futile so I will highlight only a few. As a youngster on the lake he started sailing X-boats way back when. Later moving up the ladder he sailed many scow models on both the upper and lower lake, as well as most other inland lakes in the Midwest and beyond. He is recognized and asked to crew by some of the best skippers our area has ever produced and helped them multiple championships in many classes. I first met this year's award winner when we took a throw-together crew down to Geneva on a J-24 of Gary Andersons. Having tried and failed with more practiced crews at this regatta, we sailed our way into a 24 point lead due in large part this crewmembers hard work. More recently he has spent his time sailing in the S2.79 fleet and helped to make it one of the more competitive at the club as well as at major regattas. This year was no exception to his winning ways. Another North American Champion Regatta in the S2, second place in the Richardson Cup run-off, and two new endeavors. Taking a quick jump over to the J-22 fleet and switching from his natural position to the foredeck he exemplified his diversity by leading his boat to 1st place in the Sunset series, and a 5th at the North American Championship. Last and maybe most significant he took a shot at "big boats". A first ride in the Chicago to Mackinaw race on a WYC boat, he once again proved his great value helping the Yacht to its best finish. His innovative thoughts on spinnaker trim were a large part of this success. At the conclusion of the race the boats owners voted him as the MVP once again. Not bad for your first time! To sum him up, this years Andy Crew continues to be a standout at many positions, on many boats. He makes sailing fun while maintaining a competitive attitude that leads the boats he is on to top finishes at all levels of sailing. While doing so he manages to be the first one at the boat setting up, and the last one taking down, smiling along the way. He has also helped to raise a son and daughter who have both become highly successful sailors in their own right. This year's award winner is most deserving, and the **2005 Andy Crewmember is Mark Oppen!**

The Foster Trophy

By Bert Foster

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. Jarod Silverman has been a member of the WYC RC for a number of years, starting as a helper and progressing to an assistant race officer (ARO), to a race officer, to a mark boat driver, and recently, to be the most reliable and trusted PRO. Jarod has shown tremendous responsibility. Bad weather, equipment problems, short-handed - doesn't faze Jarod. When he is in control, we can all have total confidence of that day's races coming off as exceptional. Jarod has made a significant contribution to WYC's race management. With great appreciation and gratitude from WYC and all its members, the **2005 Foster Trophy** is awarded to **Jarod Silverman**.

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 2005 Sportsmanship Award was awarded to THE Brennom family, consisting of Lara Brennom, Nils Brennom, Doc Brennom, Michelle Brennom, Kristen (Brennom) Peterson.

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(s) 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. For always being there, happy, enthusiastic, looking for fun and taking on many new crew who have now come to love sailing the **2005 Doc Sam Award** is deservedly given to **Dan Wolfe and Mara Troth**.

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 **2005 Boat of the Year** award was presented to **Ernie Worthley, PHRF I, Synergy, #763**.

A.I.S. 2005 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. **Silver Bullet.**
Boat of the Year - Awarded annually to the yacht with the most number of firsts. Chewbacca.
Gold Cup - Boat of the Year - Awarded annually to the yacht with the most number of first places during the year. Chippewa.
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. **Dave Crum.**
Commodore's Trophy - Awarded annually to the best place club finisher in the Lake Superior Yachting Association Offshore Series. **Chippewa.**
Day Race Trophy - Awarded annually to the best club finisher in all AIS buoy races. Chippewa.
Chemung Trophy - Awarded annually to the best place finisher in the double-handed race. **Chewbacca.**
Pierpont Memorial Trophy - Awarded annually to the best place club finisher in the Trans Superior. **Chewbacca.**

Capri 25 Special Awards

Boat of the Year - Quick Draw
Rookie of the Year - Sudawn
Most Improved - Catapult III
Moxie Award - Off Line
Most Valuable Crew - Scott Patridge
Smoozability Award - Barnie Barnes
Man Overboard Trophy - Crew of Looscrew
Rookie Crew of the Year:
Corry Hammett (Ham-It-Up!)
Sydney Arnold (Ham-It-Up!)
Wil Traeger (Wasabi)
Women's Champ Series:
1st - Wasabi - Skipper: Denise Eng
2nd - Ham-It-Up! - Skipper: Corry Hammett
3rd - Persistence - Skipper: Kim Joriman

BLAKE MIDDLETON MS WALK - TEAM SAIL

Although Blake is typically a powerboater, he's also a better sailboat racer than just about all of us. More importantly, he is a central part of both the WYC and MYC sailing communities. We are greatly indebted to him for the work he does. Blake does this work while dealing with the daily effects of Multiple Sclerosis. He makes it look easy, but it's not.

On May 7th at 8:00am, Blake will be heading up TEAM SAIL in the TwinCities MS walk. For the guy who supports your hobby race after race, here are a few ways to support him. Sponsor Team Sail, right now, online at

<https://www.nationalmssociety.org/MNM/personal/default.asp?pa=45690565&pd=MNM0EWLK20060507TWC>

Do the eight mile walk with Team Sail by clicking the "Join My Team" icon at the above web address. The event starts at 8:00am May 7th, and you'll be done in time for the Sunday afternoon races.

Entry is free - you only need to get some sponsors. If you have questions, feel free to contact Blake at MYC@aol.com (and please ask him to get a new e-mail address).

2006 TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Now posted at www.wyc.org/schedule.htm

MOORING FEES AT WYC

Wayzata Yacht Club is fortunate to have a location and marina, which are helpful in making our club successful. It has always been our goal to provide an excellent value for our club members. It may seem that rates have been rising for our club, but we actually continue to be an ever-improving value compared to the costs of other marinas on Lake Minnetonka.

Our traditional guideline has been to maintain mooring rates at less than 50% of the going lake rate. We currently find ourselves at around 34% of lake rates. While some marinas charge \$190 for foot, we charge about \$66 per foot for actively racing boats. Furthermore, we think our facilities are well maintained, we have an active social calendar and we are the closest marina to the downtown area. It is not our goal to be the cheapest marina on the lake. Rather we strive to provide the best value for your dollar. As an example, the city of Excelsior has been recently struggling with rates for their city docks and moorings. The following is an excerpt from the Lakeshore Weekly News:

Dock fees in Excelsior are in for a hike

By Brett Stursa Staff Reporter

Monday, February 06, 2006

Fees still considerably cheaper than private marinas. The Excelsior City Council is poised to make triple-digit rate increases to residential dock fees, something no other council in the history of the city has done. Even with the increase, the cost for renting a slip will be well below fees at private marinas or the one operated by the city of Minnetonka. Currently the city charges \$1,000 to dock a 19-foot boat, which is the average length of a boat at the Excelsior docks. At Gray's Bay Marina, owned by the city of Minnetonka, it costs \$3,000 for a slip, which is three times more than what Excelsior currently charges. The rates in Excelsior are broken down by foot, with residents paying \$50 per foot. Of the seven private marinas surveyed, the average rate for a slip last summer was \$190 per foot. That's almost four times as much as Excelsior charges. Council Member Greg Miller, with what appears to be the council's support, is advocating raising the rates to 50 percent of market value, which would be phased in over three years. The increase translates to slightly more than \$800 in total, or about \$270 each year.

So as you're writing those checks for mooring this spring. Keep in mind how good we all have it here at WYC.

MOORING/CRANE FEES

All those previously mooring in the marina received a mooring invoice in December for the 2006 sailing season and a balance due letter. 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 (to reinstate your crane card) and the balance of your mooring fees by March 15th to avoid having your mooring sold to a BIG waiting list!

WAYZATA HIGH SCHOOL ROCKS!

The Wayzata High School became the first Midwest high school to win a gold medal at a national championship this past weekend. Katie Culhane, Eric Sauter, Bill Siemers and Kaye Siemers travel to Austin, Texas to compete in the "National High School Invitational Championship" host by the Austin Yacht Club November 12 - 13. The team was accompanied by coach Cappy Capper and parent rep Ross Siemers. 33 high school teams from 16 states qualified through their districts to compete in the event for the Great Oaks Trophy sailed in double-handed dinghies. The field was split in half for the first day of racing to determine a "Gold" and "Silver" fleet. Wayzata started off on Saturday with a first place in race number one and sailed well in the light air to make the Gold fleet. Sunday was much like Saturday with light air. Wayzata took two bullets in the first two races on Sunday, finished sixth and second in races three and four to win by five points over North Kingston High School from Rhode Island. The regatta was originally scheduled to be hosted by Southern Yacht Club in New Orleans but a tragic fire destroyed the club during hurricane Katrina. A ceremonial oak tree was planted at the Austin Yacht Club to signify a new beginning for the members of Southern Yacht Club who lost their club. A pledge was made to have the regatta sailed there again. Congratulations to the Wayzata High School Sailing Team!

WAYZATA YACHT CLUB IS #2 VIRTUAL SAILING CLUB IN THE WORLD

By Dallas Johnson

Our club web site has always been a volunteer effort. This means most of our effort goes into ensuring the site is semi- up-to-date and relevant. Little effort goes into bells or whistles and making things pretty. But features such as our scoring software, trophy photo previews, news links and a constant influx of activities at WYC keep our web site busy.

There's actually so much going on at our club that this fall that Alexa.com, a web traffic ranking service, listed WYC.org as the second most popular sailing club web site in the world. Yes, this is a bit hard to believe, but after a busy summer last year's rankings saw www.WYC.org as the second most heavily trafficked yacht club web site in the world.

This placed us ahead of such organizations as the Royal NZ Yacht Squadron, the RORC, the Intercollegiate Sailing Association, Team Allingi and ALL other yacht clubs in North America. Yes, many names you'd expect to see near the front were up there, but they were behind us. The only actual sailing club to beat us was the London Corinthian Sailing Club, a club located in downtown London that seems similar to WYC in spirit.

Our ranking, along with many snowbound clubs, has dropped over the winter. But I fully expect WYC to rise to the occasion next summer. This happens because of all the great events and activities that members of our club organize. The web site is simply a thermometer of our club's vitality and health.

Like our web site, our club is not a fancy club with fancy boats and fancy awards. But when it comes to enjoying and participating in our sport, we are a world-class club. People show up, we sail, and we love it. This happens because of fleet captains, board members, race volunteers, social event volunteers, seminar volunteers, banquet volunteers and all sorts of dedicated club members.

So here's to you, and thank you for making our club (and web site) a world-class success. Keep up the good work!



MWST WINTER SEMINAR SCHEDULE

Thursday, March 30th

MWST & Gordy Bowers: "Prepare to Win"

Thursday, April 13th

MWST & Gordy Bowers: Wind & Waves Strategy

<http://www.mwst.org/>

MWST General Membership

A general membership to Minnesota Women's Sailing Team (MWST) offers many opportunities for women sailors such as increasing sailing skills, raising self-confidence, receiving on-and-off the water training, crewing on other sailboats and networking with other sailors. There are many benefits of being a member of MWST, but there are two that stand out above the rest. The first is the comfortable, casual, fun environment in which sailing is taught and the second is the amount of training and racing opportunities included in the cost of membership. For instance, MWST offers spring classroom training to help prepare you for summer on-the-water training, sailing and racing events.

General Membership Benefits

Being a general member of the Minnesota Women's Sailing Team, you will have the opportunity to:

- Sail with experienced women's sailors in a comfortable, casual and fun environment
- Increase your sailing skill level and confidence through formal and informal classroom and on-the-water training
- Promote women in racing as crew for the MWST J22 and other boats at the Wayzata Yacht Club
- Represent MWST in local, regional and national races
- Gain experience as a "boat owner"
- Participate in local, regional and national regattas
- Meet women sailing from other local Yacht Clubs
- Attend Team meetings and have a voice in the organization's decisions
- New and novice sailors are encouraged to join the MWST. A new or novice sailor is matched up with a more experienced sailor who helps show new members "the ropes". It is our "safety line", and we liken it to wearing a "life preserver" while "getting your feet wet".

Experienced Sailors will have the opportunity to:

- Share sailing skills by helping to train inexperienced or novice sailors
- Gain crewmembers for your boat
- Increase public speaking and presentation skills
- Be coached by 1988 Olympic sailing coach, Gordy Bowers
- Crew on the MWST boat in local, regional and national competitions

Benefits also include access to:

- Crewing opportunities at WYC and the Apostle Island Station
- Wayzata Yacht Club social and networking events
- Wayzata Yacht Club educational sessions and On-the-Water Training

In Memoriam of Sharon Foster

As many of you know, the Wayzata Yacht Club lost a most cherished friend and member this winter. Sharon Foster, wife of Bert Foster, passed away this winter after a six-year battle with cancer. Sharon will be truly missed by her loving husband, family and all of us who were fortunate enough to know her. The following has been re-printed from Sharon's funeral program with the permission of Bert Foster, and the Foster Family.

Our dear, sweet Sharon always approached life with an open mind and a caring heart. Her adventurous spirit and love for her family, served as the perfect foundation for her successful career as a chemical dependency counselor. Sharon's acceptance, love, kindness and ability to reveal herself to others created a unique connection of souls. Countless people received consolation, solace, and hope from Sharon without any judgment.

From traveling the world, sailing the lakes, reaching out to people in her life, Sharon enjoyed activities and people of all walks of life. She once told Bert, "If we lost everything, we could always live with her people under the bridge in a box."

Her grandchildren were her greatest joy. Grandma attended all the sporting and dance events and took them on countless adventures. She loved showing them beaver houses, waterfalls, the Science and Children's Museum, nature hikes, and places of wonder. Nothing thrilled her more than the chaos of large family gatherings with the children's sounds of play, laughter and joy. Her lap was always full as she endlessly rocked her babies saying, "Your grandma loves you!"

Her faithful spirit continued throughout her six-year battle with cancer. As in her life, she was surrounded by all of her family in her last moments. She will be remembered by her loving husband Bert, of 25 years, her four devoted children - Michael (Molly), Katherine (Farrokh), Christine (Reinold), Steven (Deb); her three loyal stepsons - Terry (Mary), Andy (Beth), Will (Jennifer); and her eight adoring grandchildren - Sarah (12) and Maria (9) Rassouli; Jennifer (6) Athey; Trenton (7) and Collin (3) Lee; Susie (4) and Amy (2) Foster; Clara (1) Foster.

May her spirit and love live in your hearts forever. Thank you for your support, kindness and generosity. Sharon asked that any memorials in her name be sent to the Wayzata Sailing Foundation, Youth Sailing Program, P.O. Box 768; Wayzata, MN 55391-0768.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Bert and the entire Foster Family.

Scott Brigham
Commodore, WYC



ADA SAILING REGATTA - SAVE THE "NEW" DATE 6TH ANNUAL AMERICAN DIABETES ASSOCIATION SAILING REGATTA, JUNE 17TH AND 18TH

We are again honored to be working with the American Diabetes Association's to host our annual ADA Sailing Regatta. As a club, this is our primary opportunity to shine by giving back to the community.

We've made some changes to the event this year to improve its profile on the racing calendar. Most importantly, the date has been moved to June 17th and 18th. This is early enough in the year that we hope to avoid some of the mid-season burnout that happens near the end of July. The time for the race has also changed. Racing will begin after lunch with social events beginning immediately after the races. So you've got your mornings free, and the earlier date means we will absolutely, positively, without a doubt have excellent wind and weather.

As always, we'll have two great days of racing, a silent auction, picnic dinner, entertainment, beverages and snacks. And all funds raised will benefit the programs of diabetes research, information services, advocacy efforts and summer camps of the American Diabetes Association.

This is the time of year for our club members (that's YOU) to reach out to our employers and contacts in search of corporate sponsors. A complete PDF sponsorship packet is currently available online at www.WYC.org/ADA.htm. Many employers earmark funds specifically for employees interested in giving back to their community, so think about being an ADA Regatta representative at your company.

Diabetes has reached epidemic levels and by participating in this event you will be part of the American Diabetes Association's efforts to put an end to diabetes, a disease that affects more than 281,000 Minnesotans and 20.8 million Americans. There has been so much good news lately regarding a cure for Diabetes, but there's still so much to do to finish the work. We look forward to seeing you Sail for a Cure!

For more information, contact Susan at the American Diabetes Association at (763) 593-5333, ext. 6591 or sklimek@diabetes.org.



Wisconsin boat takes first place in spinnaker class at St. Croix International Regatta

By *PATRICK JOY, The Virgin Islands Daily News*
Tuesday, February 21st, 2006

ST. CROIX - In Dave West's hometown of Bayfield, Wis., the thermometer hovers well below the freezing mark this time of year and unless you plan on breaking up six inches of ice, sailing is about as practical as sunbathing. West, however, was basking in both sun and glory on Monday on St. Croix as he and his crew celebrated a win aboard the Chippewa in the spinnaker class of the 2006 St. Croix International Regatta, which was sponsored by Innovative Communication Corp. It was West's first competitive trip to the Caribbean, and he spent his time here well, staking a commanding lead Saturday aboard his Farr 395 and then holding on Monday for a nine-point win. West and his crew picked up the skipper's weight in Cruzan Rum for their efforts. "We were sailing with friends from where we live in Wisconsin and Minnesota, and these were very good sailors," said West. "The boat was dialed in fast, and it went beautifully." West gave much of the credit to his crew. No matter how badly botched my run at the mark was as helmsman, they were able to salvage it," he said, laughing. "That was really the story of the weekend." West beat out Tortolan Guy Eldridge and the Mistress Quickly, who won a race Sunday and placed fourth in another to overtake St. Croix's Morgan Dale and the Sorceress. Eldridge was nine points behind West and four points ahead of Dale, who struggled Sunday with fourth-place and seventh-place finishes. Crew include owners Dave and Kim West, Sam Solhaug, Pete Kulenkamp, Dick Kalow, Pat Burns, Steve Brown, Linde Jury, Nick D'Aloia, Tammy and Erik Walstrom, Alan Waite, Keith and

Kinnan Stauber, Chris Juntunen, Alex and Claudia Gordon, Rick and Dave Searl, Shereen Kidwell, Jordan Woods-Wahl, Bill and Doreen Peterson. See <http://teamchippewa.blogspot.com/> for the entire story.

Daily News Photo by CRISTIAN SIMESCU Chippewa, out of Bayfield, Wisconsin prepares to pull in its spinnaker Monday morning before rounding the leeward mark during the 13th annual St. Croix International Regatta. Chippewa won the spinnaker division.

CAPPY CAPPER NAMED "OUTSTANDING PROGRAM DIRECTOR" AT U.S. SAILING CONFERENCE

Cappy Capper was awarded the "Outstanding Program Director of a New Program" at U.S. Sailing's National Sailing Programs Symposium held in Long Beach California, January 18 - January 22. Honored for his dedication to public access and success in coaching, Capper accepted the award on behalf of all of the members of the Wayzata Yacht Club, the Wayzata Sailing Foundation and assistant coach, Brent Ostbye.



Wayzata Yacht Club
P.O. Box 585
Wayzata, MN 55391-0585

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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, steve_bren@yahoo.com or Wbren@mn.rr.com