



February 2007
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Footnotes...

February Events

2/3 Soup/Chili Cruise
2/10 Toga Party
2/18 Sunday Cruise
2/24 Winter Gale #1

March Events

3/3 Saturday Cruise
3/4 Winter Gale #2
3/10 Winter Gale #3
3/18 St Patty's Cruise
Winter Gale #4
3/21 Wed. Warm Up #1
3/25 Fair Winds #1
3/28 Wed. Warm Up #2

Commodore's Corner

Commodore: Steve O'Hagan
A Sailing Adventure

I learned to sail when I was 10 and have been sailing off and on all my life. For a long time I thought I knew what I was doing. My enlightenment came when I started racing. While crewing for experienced racers I learned about perfect trim done fast, the importance of reading wind shifts, and the need for crisp and precise tacks and jibes -- intense, hard work but, exhilarating.

At the same time I was taking the series of ASA courses and expanding my horizons in navigation and blue water sailing. Cruising along the stark but beautiful coast of Maine on the one hand, and sailing through the brilliant colors and turquoise waters of the Caribbean on the other just can't be beat.

Some times racing and cruising skills come together such as the time I was taking the Advanced Coastal Cruising course. We sailed out of Port Charlotte and headed for the Florida Keys. We arrived at Key West after an overnight sail and stayed there a few days. It was there that I learned that cruise ships create such a disturbance that they announce a *securite* before departing or entering the harbor.

Our plan was to sail out to Dry Tortugas, anchor for the night, and then head back to Port Charlotte. There was a tropical storm in the Atlantic east of Cuba but things looked good where we were going. We were learning to use electronic navigation gear and auto pilot; to my amazement, after an 18 mile leg we came up within 15 yards of our mark.. After a slow sail to Tortugas (passing the top of a mast of an unfortunate sailboat along the way) we arrived an hour before sunset. The Ranger greeted us and asked if we planned to ride out the hurricane there and if so he would need the names of our next of kin and how to contact them. The tropical storm had grown into a category 3 hurricane and we were directly in its track.

We rethought our plan. Anchoring overnight in the path of a hurricane was not appealing, so we weighed anchor and headed back to Port Charlotte. Speed became a significant consideration at this point right up there with navigation and setting watches so some could rest while the other worked; there were three of us. I had the midnight to 4 am shift at the helm. Throughout all my watch we were sailing amid thunderstorms. The pattern became predictable: the storms formed off the starboard bow and rolled in but dissipated about a quarter of a mile away. At one point, however, things deteriorated. The wind picked up 12 mph to over 25, and the rain was really pouring in. I started to reef in and the change in attitude woke up our instructor who was catnapping in the cockpit. He started grabbing lines and trimming before he was fully awake; even in his sleep he was grabbing the right lines. His initial assessment was that we needed to take down all sail and ride it out. But then he thought he saw a star peek through the clouds (invisible to me), said we'd be through it shortly, and went back to sleep. Although the thunderstorms continued for a while, soon we were in the clear, he was right. We sailed through a starry night and brilliant sunrise and arrived in Port Charlotte a little after noon. We slept.

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From the Poop Deck

Vice Commodore: Jim McKean
Then and now?

When I took over as Vice Commodore, Steve O'Hagan gave me a giant folder containing the past Footnotes issues dating back to 1984. In the Log for the Jan/Feb issue 1985, written by then Commodore Flo Lovelace, I came across a passage that's as true today as it was back then.

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Christine Lemon
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Yeoman
Margaret Sherrod
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Tom O'Shea
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Boatswain
Tim Fulmer

Past Commodore
Ned Gilchrist
(404) 317-9404

"Barefoot is a unique sailing club which offers the fun of everything related to sailing at a low cost. Its greatest assets are its members who enjoy sailing and fellowship with those who share this interest. They share their knowledge and talents to provide many sailing opportunities. They organize social events, provide opportunities to learn and develop sailing skills, and to participate in regularly scheduled races and other sailing events. If you are looking for a plush club house, you won't find it at Barefoot; BUT, if you are looking for good friends and a chance to enjoy sailing in all of its various forms, then barefoot provides some of the best opportunities around!"

The article went on to state the activities sponsored by the club such as Social Events such as cook outs and a bikini-sunburn event, Learn to Sail (now called Intro to Sailing) to introduce land lubbers and aspiring Corinthians to the basics of sailing, racing to develop our sailing skills and to enjoy the fun of sailing, monthly meetings and the Newsletter, you are reading now. In a subsequent issue I found out that the bikini contest was for the guys...

We continue to offer one of the best values in sailing clubs on Lake Lanier, when you renew your membership this year, please feel free to email me with your comments and suggestions both for the club and for the Monthly Membership meetings to vice_commodore@barefootsailing.org



Destinations

Cruising Captain: Lance Jones

With an eye towards the increasing amount of sunlight each day, we now have a visible horizon well before 0630 and after 1930 each day. This is known as Nautical Twilight. It is the period of the day where there is still enough light to take accurate star readings with a visible horizon. Begin Morning Nautical Twilight (BMNT) is before sunrise and End Evening Nautical Twilight (EENT) is after the sun sets. Translation, we're getting more time each day to sail!

The cruising fleet is really running with the wind this year. We had the *Soup & Chili* cruise in conjunction with the Cruising 101 seminar on February 3 at the Sunrise Marina Club House. *Cruising 101* had over fourteen members show up on this sub-arctic temperature day during which we covered several basic cruising and general boating topics in an open forum format. There was a good mix of skippers and crew so we had perspectives from both sides of the tiller! Bill Gray conducted his annual toy boat show.....actually his great course on how Barefoot conducts a "Raft-up." One result of this seminar is that Barefoot did standardize that when a boat, in the middle of a raft up, needs to leave, they would back out if weather, sea and shore conditions allow it.

Following that, we adjourned for a wonderful selection of soups and chilies. They ranged from Potato Sausage and Corn Chowder to Vegetarian Chili. Man, talk about good! There was not a disappointed pallet in the house. Neil Franklin brought a gallon of his world infamous Hot Buttered Rum too! So, we were warmed by many different sources.

A few of us braved the thirty degree temps and went out on the lake for some great winter cruising. There was good wind and sun out there so we all had a blast! Based on the comments and questions posed by many of the participants, there WILL be a Cruising 102 at a later date.

The second February Cruise, Sunday the 18th will be led by Bill Gray as I will be out of town with my band, *Póg*, in Savannah at the Savannah Irish Festival. This brings me to an announcement. The SUNDAY **March** 18th Cruise will be an Irish Wake to mark the passing of St. Patty's Day and to serve as a warm up for the Celtic Crossing! Here is the notice I sent to the Website.

To mark the passing of St. Patty's Day and to get you ready for the Celtic Crossing, the Sunday, March 18th cruise will be an Irish Wake! Break out your Irish flags, paint your face green and do anything to celebrate the passing in true Irish style. There will be a prize for the best decorated Barefoot member's boat and one for the best Barefoot "Irish" crew. The prizes are being provided by *Celtic Crossing Liqueur*! Please contact Lance for details. Erin go bragh! Well, at least Bragh-less



Social Life

Social Captain: Kristina Luther

Toga...toga...toga...February's social event was the potluck Toga Party on February 10th at Chris and Linda Webster's house. BFSC sailors dressed in a multitude of impressive togas and shared in some great food. A very hearty "thanks" goes out to the Websters for graciously hosting such a fun party!

Blessing of the Fleet Ceremony & Celebration March 3rd.

Please join us for the annual Blessing of the Fleet ceremony and celebration on Saturday, March 3rd. The Blessing of the Fleet is a long-standing tradition in the maritime community. We are excited to welcome back Mike Freeman, retired Navy Chaplain, to perform this year's blessing.

The Blessing of the Fleet coincides with the first cruising event of the month and a BFSC-hosted LARC race. The Favored End will be anchored near 'X' mark by Aqualand to serve as the platform for the ceremony. The parade of boats and blessing will begin promptly at 12:15. After the racers and cruisers return to shore from their afternoon out on the water, we'll meet up at Sunrise Cove at 5:00 p.m. for dinner. Even if you aren't able to join us for the blessing earlier in the day, we look forward to seeing you at the dinner in the evening!

Blessing of the Fleet Details for March 3rd

Cruisers: Meet up with Cruising Captain Lance Jones in front of the Aqualand Ships Store at 10:00 a.m., additional details for the blessing will be given at the meeting.

Racers: Meet up with Racing Captain Rob Whitley in front of the Aqualand Ships Store for the LARC Skipper's meeting at 11:00 a.m., followed by information about the blessing.

Joining Us for Dinner? Meet at the Sunrise Cove Marina's clubhouse at 5:00 p.m. for dinner with fellow BFSC members.

You won't want to miss this grand event! To volunteer to help with the event, or to learn more information, please contact Social Captain Kris Luther (keluther@gmail.com)

Reflections

Past Commodore: Ned Gilchrist

As an organization, Barefoot Sailing Club supports other organizations that promote the sport of sailing. The national organization is US Sailing. Regionally, we are a member of the South Atlantic Yacht Racing Association (SAYRA), and locally, we are a member of Lanier Auxiliary Racing Committee. As you can see from the titles most of these revolve around racing. What are these organizations and why do we belong to them?

Lets talk about the national organization for a moment. US Sailing is the National Governing Body for the sport of sailing and sailboat racing in the United States. US Sailing's mission is to encourage participation and promote excellence in sailing and sailboat racing in the United States. We race by a set of rules published by this organization and out judges and race officers are endorsed certified thru them. They also develop and administer insurance programs for sailing organizations that are effective and affordable. We all benefit whether we race or we cruise whether directly or indirectly from this organization.

For the past few years, we have joined another organization known as SAYRA. SAYRA endorses and promotes sailing in a similar way as US Sailing but at a more regional level. They help coordinate sailing events with a regional calendar. They are the judges and race officers we go to when we hold a regatta to get seek to get unbiased race results in nationals competition held perhaps even on Lake Lanier. Working with this organization and thru this organization allows our club to have region exposure and opportunities that are bigger than just out lake in Georgia. Lake Lanier members of SAYRA are Atlanta Inland Sailing Club (AISC), Barefoot Sailing Club (BFSC), and Lake Lanier Sailing Club (LLSC). The first week of February, we will joining with them in August, GA for an Annual Meeting. Part of this meeting is to hold an awards dinner, committee meetings that conduct the business of racing, training that helps distribute information and a special Mount Gay Speaker, Dave Perry who is a national racer. All are invited to attend and can log on to their website for information or talk with Tom Graham or myself for more details.

The organization most are familiar with is the LARC. This organization was founded so that all clubs can work together and share the lake. Membership includes AISC, BFSC, LLSC, SSC, and UYC. We work together to coordinate a racing calendar and we hope to expand that to include other events as well. The LARC also collects the dues to maintain the racing marks on Lake Lanier. BFSC works with the LARC committee to iron out difference and to work in better harmony on the lake so that each clubs interests can be better supported, promoted and endorsed. We look forward to the 2007 year ahead and hope you all will work with and support these organizations as well.

Dues are Still Due

If you have not already paid your 2007 dues, you should have recently received a reminder renewal notice that includes the information we have on file for you. Please use this form to send in with your dues. And please take a minute to review the information and correct any that may have changed. New members should still use the membership application that is available on our website, www.barefootsailing.org.

Individual and Family renewal rates for BFSC membership are \$60 and College/Student renewal rates are \$45.

Additionally, for Barefoot members who are renewing their US Sailing membership through our cooperative Golden Anchor program, or those joining US Sailing for the first time, individual US Sailing memberships remain \$40 and family memberships are \$60. (The non-Golden Anchor US Sailing membership rates are \$50 for individuals and \$75 for families.) The US Sailing memberships and renewals will be sent in as a group in June and are effective August through July.

Thanks to those of you who have already renewed. If you have questions about your renewal contact Margaret Sherrod.

2007 Introduction to Sailing Class

Join Barefoot Sailing Club for our **Introduction to Sailing**, formerly called Learn-to-Sail. Our on-the-water day-sail will be held in 2 parts this year, first we will join the Cruisers on **April 7th** where we will receive our class introduction and outline (as is customary please bring a snack/beverages to share with your Skipper). Our ground school is on **April 10 - 12, 2007** and our "Graduation/Wing Fling" takes place after the On the Water TEST on **Saturday, April 14, 2007**, on the boats of BFSC club members.

Ground school is held at Georgia Perimeter College - Dunwoody Campus (corner of Tilly Mill Road and Womack Road), beginning at 7 p.m. each evening (until about 9:30 p.m.) It is not essential to attend all classroom sessions; however, we **strongly** encourage new sailors to attend all sessions to maximize their learning experience.

This program is included, at no additional charge, in BFSC membership fee, (\$45 for new members) *except for \$15 for the textbook.* If you have questions or want to register for the class, please contact program coordinator, Margaret Sherrod , via [email mmsherrod@bellsouth.net](mailto:mmsherrod@bellsouth.net) or by phone at 404/351-2976.

General topics covered in the class include:

· Boat etiquette	· Sail theory
· Personal equipment and gear	· Types of boats
· Marlinespike seamanship (knots)	· Parts of a boat
· Points of sail	· Tacking and jibing
· Sailing jargon/nomenclature	· Man overboard
· Mooring and anchoring	· Departing and docking
· Rules of the road	· Basic weather

Even if you know something about sailing, this is a great refresher course. The emphasis is on boating knowledge, safety and boat handling. Our volunteer instructions always have a way of making the classes entertaining as well as informative. So, come join us!

The Second Annual Celtic Crossing! (AKA Sink oh Mac Mayo)

Yes, it is soon upon us again. As those who took part in the original Celtic Crossing can tell you, this is *THE* cruising event on Loch Lanier. We have Celtic Crossing Liqueur as our sponsor again so, you know what that means!

As with last year, the event will include a Celtic blessing of the fleet, a parade of boats and prizes awarded for certain performance points along the route. One of those, again, will be for the best Celtic decorated boat. Let your imagination run wild. Here is your chance to order that tartan plaid sail, wear your kilt or just fly flags of the Celtic nations. Sorry, no leprechaun tossing allowed as DNR frowns upon things being thrown into the loch – might upset their Lake Level gauge. Prizes will be awarded. The prizes are being provided by Celtic Crossing Liqueur and LayLine to name a few so far.

Upon completion of the cruise, BFSC will again have the biggest Celtic party on the lake featuring live Celtic music and dance, vendors of Celtic and nautical wares, and of course food and plenty to DRINK! The skipper’s bag this year will also have an assortment of Celtic Crossing’s distillery, Castle Brands, samples. That should be enough to get you through the cruise.

Be on the look-out for the Notice of Event (NoE) on the website soon. This year’s event is to be bigger and better than last year’s. There’s more than just pirates to look out for on the loch.....

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FOR SALE!

A new area for BFSC members to get rid of that junk in the trunk! BFSC Members can advertise their sailing gear that they have for sale, space permitting, free of charge. Non-members may advertise for \$5.00 per issue.

Assorted Blocks: Used fittings from salvaged C-22. Contact Lance (770) 330-4010



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