



January 2008
January 2008

Footnotes...

Upcoming Events in January

20th: Winter Gale
#1 & 3rd Sunday
Cruise

28th: January
Membership
Meeting (Norcross
Jocks and Jills)

Commodore's Corner

Commodore: Lance Jones

Welcome to 2008! We have a very challenging year ahead of us with the lake being so low and not knowing when, or if, we'll get enough rain this year to bring it back up. That being said, Barefoot has a great group of experienced board members that I think will help us navigate through this year's hazards.

I'm hoping that this year we'll see members supporting the club by renewing their membership in spite of the low lake levels. Contrary to some rumors, there is still plenty of lake to sail on. For you cruisers who would like to try out the racing world, this is a great time to do so as many of the boats that normally race are now stuck on their trailers. So, you have a great chance to win a trophy and also have plenty of experienced crew who need a boat to sail. Race crew looking for boats, join the cruisers and take in the view at a slower, laid back pace.

I have spoken with the Commodore of the Oconee Sailing and Yacht Club on Lake Sinclair. Jimmy Harrell reports that their lake is full! Sinclair, according to him averages about 50-100 feet under the keel. They have several ramps that easily support sailboat launches and recovery. OSYC has several open races throughout the year and they would love to have us come on down. Sinclair is about a two-hour drive and is much closer to us than the coast.

Look for plenty of activities this year as we have a very innovative board with plenty of ideas. Please contact them if you have any ideas or questions.

Racing Updates

Racing Captain: Chris Webster

On New Year's Day we had our first event of the season with the annual BFSC/SSC Poker Run/Mad Hatter's outing. Tedd Meinersmann, Paul Warner and I trekked out on FAVORED END into the cold windy wee hours of the morning to duct tape two decks of cards (sealed in envelopes) onto the navigable permanent marks in Chattahoochee Bay. We finished up just in time to hustle over to the Skipper's Meeting at the Aqualand Ship Store. By then it had crept passed the freezing mark, but the wind was howling with gusts in the thirty MPH range. When we arrived at the Skipper's Meeting there was probably 20-30 die hard skippers/sailors in waiting. Due to the increasing velocity of the winds, we all agreed to forego the on the water festivities and reconvened at Cocktail Cove Restaurant for a much drier and warmer land version of the Poker Run. The winners with the best Poker hand were Mike & Heidi Hein with 4 of a kind and they received a bottle of Barefoot wine. Runner up was Tedd Meinersmann with 2 pair. By the way if you venture out in the vicinity of X, D, C, B, and E marks, please feel free to remove any residual cards/envelopes for me. Thanks to Tedd and Paul for helping me get the cards on the marks. Tom & Marie Graham for the pre-event phone call reminders to various participants, and Linda Webster for making arrangements with Cocktail Cove Restaurant.

Reminder to all skippers who plan to race their auxiliary PHRF sailboats this year: Please make sure your LLPHRF rating certificates are up to date. Most clubs won't score you in any series races or any of the regattas on Lake Lanier if you don't have a current LLPHRF certificate. If you haven't previously bought one, you can get a multi-year (3) certificate for \$15, or a single year for \$8. Go on-line at www.saillanier.com under 'Lanier PHRF' to obtain a blank certificate or any information on the PHRF Committee. Please note that this does not apply if you're sailing a Portsmouth fleet type sailboat.

The first race of the season is Winter Gale #1 scheduled for Sunday 1/20/08. The Skipper's meeting will be at the Aqualand Ship Store parking lot at 11:00 am, and the race will start in the vicinity of "X" mark at 1pm. Yes there is still plenty of navigable waters in the Chattahoochee Bay area (more specifically around/between the marks: X, B, C, D, & E). Please print out and review the 2008 BFSC Sailing Instructions that will hopefully be posted on the BFSC website prior to Winter Gale #1. In the sailing instructions I have changed the buoy courses to the "Tom Graham special" windward leeward course designs.

A little later in the season, when the weather becomes a little balmier, I plan to re-start the 15-20 minute “white board” sessions. In these sessions, immediately following the Skipper’s Meetings, I’ll be reviewing tactics and racing rules for all those interested. Stay tuned for announcements on this later.

EVERYBODY,...PRAY FOR RAIN, OR DO WHATEVER YOU CAN TO MAKE THE RAIN GODS WORK FAVORABLY ON OUR PRECIOUS LAKE LANIER!

Social Life

Social Captain: Linda Webster

Our first event of the year was meant to include everyone from cruiser to racers to spectators, but it appears that only about 30 members showed up on the frigid cold blustery 1st day of 2008. Typically, we would all go out on our boats and grab a single envelope from each of the marks and eventually end up meeting afterwards to see who picked the best poker hand. The high gusting winds, freezing temperatures and shallow water were the main factors that prompted Racing Captain Chris Webster made a decision to retreat to Cocktail Cove for warmth and great eats. Anyone falling off the boat would have had some serious problems. Fortunately, Cocktail Cove was able to step up with short notice that we’d be invading about 4 hours earlier than originally planned and they provided such yummys as sliced Cuban sandwiches, wings, fresh cut veggies with dip, chips & salsa and spinach, artichoke dip. It was a great way to start off the New Year, enjoying good company and food. Hope you were lucky enough to be there.

On another note, once we get our social calendar worked out, I will be looking for volunteers to help with the various events. When everyone pitches in (as most do), no *one person* will have to be overwhelmed (mainly me!) Thanks in advance.

The Favored End

Boatswain: David Wright

Barefoot Sailing Club’s pontoon boat, “Favored End”, is a resource available to Barefoot Sailing Club members, upon request, but its primary use is as the committee boat for the various races and events we host throughout the year. It is crucial that the boat is maintained in good working order so that it is ready when needed for the race committee and event chairpersons. The club is chartered to ensure “Favored End” is maintained so as to be safe for its intended use, and that it meets all State and Federal requirements for watercraft of this size and nature.

Considering the number of club members who use the boat during the year, it is difficult to make sure that it is in proper order for the next user. The primary issue is establishing a chain of responsibility between the user and Barefoot Sailing Club. This is necessary for maintaining insurance coverage, and to make certain the club’s resources are accounted for and in proper order.

The Boatswain is the club’s focal point for all issues pertaining to “Favored End”. The Boatswain is responsible for establishing and maintaining the controls that will make sure the “Favored End” is safe and available for its intended use. As your Boatswain, and with the approval of the 2008 Board, a few simple procedures are being implemented that will establish the needed chain of responsibility for the use of the Favored End:

- First, all requests for use of The “Favored End” are to be made thru the Boatswain, or the Commodore if you are unable to reach the Boatswain. The request will include the name of who will be the principal user, the date Favored End is to be used, and the event for which it is intended. The request can be via phone or e-mail, and should be at least three days before the intended use.
- Next, a usage/inventory sheet will be maintained onboard “Favored End” in the boat’s locker. This will list all of the club’s property that should be onboard. There are many items on the boat that are club resources that are required for safe and legal operation, and for the intended use by the race committee. These items will be listed on an inventory sheet. This sheet will also include a sign off for the user to document that the items listed are in fact on the boat both when accepting responsibility for its use, and when returning it to the club. In addition, an area to identify any items needing attention on the boat is provided. The person who requested the use of “Favored End” is responsible for returning the usage/inventory form to the Boatswain.
- Finally, when you use the boat, it is your responsibility to secure the boat and return it in at least as good shape as you accepted it. This includes replenishing gas used, dumping the Porta-Potty, locking all storage boxes with all club property secured, turning off the master power switch, and ensuring “Favored End” is properly docked. A check sheet will be developed and available onboard to aid in properly securing the boat after use.

It is not the club’s intent to restrict the use of “Favored End”, but rather ensure that it is safe and available for club use as intended. Everyone who uses the boat shares in the responsibility of its good stewardship as well as the fun it enables. Let’s have fun this year regardless of the water level.

Reflections

Past Commodore: Steve O'Hagan

Happy New Year to all! I hope this coming year is at least as good as 2007. You might say that it's a challenge to plan a year's worth of sailing activities without the benefit of a lake. Last time I was at Lanier I thought I saw Ronald Reagan driving a twenty mule team hauling borax. But rest assured the incoming Board is up for the challenge. You will see a lot of energy, innovation and resourcefulness throughout the year as we cope with the water crisis, so give the Board all your support. The Poker Run was a very good start.

Well, as the temperature drops, the days grow short and cloudy I seek refuge in fantasies about the Virgin Islands. Actually I've already started arranging a charter in May. I have just recently gotten over the shock of seeing large people with no clothes on the outside (but apparently plenty of rum on the inside) high diving to win a t-shirt. Who knows maybe this is the year for me. There are some good deals available in chartering so check it out. In the mean time I look forward to seeing you all at our membership meetings and on the lake. If nothing else our on the water events will be cozy.

2008 Barefoot Sailing Club Board

Commodore	<u>Lance Jones</u> (770) 330-4010
Vice Commodore	<u>Scott Dixon</u> (404) 509-3796
Racing Captain	<u>Chris Webster</u>
Cruising Captain	<u>Marie Graham</u>
Social Captain	<u>Linda Webster</u>
Membership 1st Mate	<u>Beverly Hanson</u> (678) 480-3773
Purser	<u>Tom O'Shea</u> (404) 788-3090
Yeoman	<u>Margaret Sherrod</u>
Boatswain	<u>David Wright</u> (770) 493-3530
Past Commodore	<u>Steve O'Hagan</u> (770) 491-6232

Our Sponsors!

 **West Marine**
We make boating more fun!

