



March 2007
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Footnotes...

March Events

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

April Events

4/4 Wed. Warm up #3
4/7 1st Saturday Cruise
4/14 Wing Fling
4/15 3rd Sunday Cruise
4/22 Fair Winds #2
4/28 Around Alone Race

Commodore's Corner

Commodore: Steve O'Hagan

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You might recall the way that Rudyard Kipling defined "Courage". He said you have courage when you can keep your wits about you when all those around you are losing theirs. Well, a friend of mine told me that that just doesn't capture it. He said that you have courage when you can keep your wits about you when all those around you are losing theirs, and, the situation is going to hell in a hand basket, and everyone is blaming you for it, and they're right! That is courage. Well I think anyone who tries to do something in life will sooner or later have the chance to be courageous. But that's enough about philosophy.

Barefoot is on the move! Our first racing series has begun. The Cruisers are braving the cold (with the help of Neil Franklin's magical elixir). The Social team has provided us with a Blessing of the Fleet (sacred) and a Toga party (profane). We are actively recruiting new members. Our Website is on its way toward setting the standard. And Favored End has been restored after some steering issues (have you ever found yourself going around in circles?). We are communicating news and reports to the membership. And, not the least, we are solvent.

The energy level on this year's Board is vibrant. The effort and commitment toward advancing the Club is enormous. I would like to thank each Board Member for your contributions.

Race Fleet News

Racing Captain: Rob Whitley

All you got the eBlast regarding our first racing series of the year. We held the Winter Gale Open Series No. 1. There are four key thoughts to remember in our racing this year:

- 1) It's all about fun. Not just a few of us, every club member is invited to participate. If you need some coaching, please let me know, I will be glad to answer as many questions as you can think of. If requested, I will sail with you on your boat a time or two to get you started, and accustomed to purposely sailing with near proximity to other boats.
- 2) AS Racing Captain, I have opened the invitation for our series events to the rest of the sailors on our lake. There is much to be gained by competing, and racing against boats which can win in their fleet. With time, some of them may increase the size of our club by becoming a member of our happy family.
- 3) TIME on DISTANCE. If you have not heard by now, Barefoot Sailing Club has reverted to the scoring system that we used a long time ago. The other sailing clubs on the lake are presently using this system for scoring. A common system should help increase our racing participation within our group, AND, if we invite the others, the fun can only increase. The Time on Distance system offers more ease of use to see which leg of the race course helped you get ahead of a competitor (based on timing yourself and the boat you are comparing yours against. I.e., after rounding a mark of the course, checking your time can help you know if your suspicion that you are beating someone is valid. Let's make the most of this change.
- 4) The sizes of each fleet are designed to match the existing fleets of the popular Wednesday Night Series sponsored by AISC. This was done to stabilize the actual names of boats that you may compete against when you race in their series. As I see it, it is easier to adjust your "mindset" as to whether you feel that as you start each race, you can win, or that you can improve your standings. Stability can provide a comfort level regarding who you are racing today, you are racing tomorrow, with surprises. We will sail better and better with time. So, if you are a cruiser, start now. If you are a racer already, teach/coach someone, start now

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Boatswain

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Past Commodore

Ned Gilchrist
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So, with the 1st Winter Gale Open race, we did enjoy seeing that there were some participants who were not members, and we saw boats that have not raced with us in a long time. That is a good start. Invite some more of your friends to match race with your within your own fleet.

The Winter Gale Open Series No. 1 was run by Linda Webster, and was assisted by her husband Chris and Rosemary Coronel. Rosemary is one of our newest members of Barefoot. She jumped in with boat feet. From where I was (sailing through each gate of the course) she appeared to be having a great time. She was taking lots of pictures of the racers. I hope that we see them on our web site soon. They may already be there, as the race was on February 24th. Look for them.

The course of the day was great. It was: Start at X, FP, XS-GATE, DP, XS-GATE, EP, AP, CP, XS-GATE FINISH which offered 5.92 miles of great competitive fun with wind speeds of 10-15 mph.

Winter Gale Open Series No. 2 was a different story. The wisdom of our Race Committee and sailors made the executive decision to not sail that day, due to conditions. March roared in like a LION and reminded us that Mother Nature can show you how fragile we are. The temperature at race time was approximately 35°F and the winds were 15-20. Now, if you haven't sailed with wind chill like that yet, try it sometime. You have to really have a good reason to when you do it. Sometimes we do it to protect your standings in a race series, or you just have to do it to get your boat back home after an overnight front caught you away from home (talk with some of the blue water sailors about changes that can come with a windy weather front).

Winter Gale Open Series No. 2 is postponed until Saturday March 17th. We will race jointly with Sean O'Connor's SSC group. We will have double scoring to reflect the charter of both our clubs. The joint race will be scored Time on Distance.



Destinations

Cruising Captain: Lance Jones



We are now at that time of year where we have longer periods of daylight. Some of the best wind in the warmer months is in the evenings and early night. In order to take advantage of these winds, make sure your electrical system or portable lights are working **BEFORE** you go out for an evening cruise.

There are numerous places on Lake Lanier to overnight. As a club, we are looking at having a couple of overnight cruises in the warmer months. The cruising fleet is hoping to have our first overnight cruise on the weekend of April 28th -29th. For those who haven't taken their boats out overnight before, this would be a great time to go out with experienced boats. This would be a boat owners and INVITED guest cruise.

Barefoot is planning to have an "Open" overnighter in June that all members could participate. This would necessitate camping overnight for the crew at Old Federal Campground. BFSC would cover the cost for the campsites and you would need to provide the tent.

The 2nd Annual Celtic Crossing is just around the corner, May 5th! As with last years event, we are recognizing the contributions made to Maritime History by the Celtic peoples of the world.

There are a total of seven Celtic nations. They are: Scotland, Ireland, Wales, Cornwall, the Isle of Man, Brittany and Galicia. All of them have a long seafaring tradition. Most of the fishing fleets in Spain, France and the British Isles are made up of Celts. If you look at the great ships of history, Royal Oak, Titanic, Lusitania, Queen Elizabeth, they were built in Ireland or Scotland. The Celts may never have had a navy; but, they made up a large percentage of both the merchant and naval fleets of the great sailing nations that settled the New World.

The Barefoot Celtic Crossing is again sponsored by Celtic Crossing Liqueur. They will be providing the prizes and samples for the skippers bags. LayLine will also be providing prizes this year as well. Hopefully, we will have several other well known suppliers as sponsors this year as well.

Social Life

Social Captain: Kristina Luther

March 3rd was our annual Blessing of the Fleet Ceremony and Celebration. We held the event in conjunction with the first cruising event of the month and a BFSC-sponsored LARC race. Pastor Mike Freeman officiated aboard the Favored End. Later in the day, we met up for a great lasagna dinner at Sunrise Cove. The warm food was appreciated by all the sailors who were out in the 18+ knots of wind! About 40 people showed up for the dinner. As with all BFSC events, we couldn't have done it without a great group of volunteers. A special thanks to all those who donated their time (and, in some cases, food) to help make this a successful event: Lita Bookland, David Bowles, Mike Freeman, Lance Jones, Jimbo McKean, David Payne, Con Peltier, Paul and Debbie Swanson, John Tucker, Linda Webster, and Penelope Young.

Coming up in April, we have the Wing Fling on Saturday, April 14th. The Wing Fling will be held at the Aqualand Pavilion beginning around 3:30 p.m. The Wing Fling party is held in conjunction with the graduation of our Learn to Sail program participants. This is a great opportunity to meet the Learn to Sail participants and welcome them to Barefoot Sailing. I'll be supplying a flock of tasty wings in various flavors. Please bring a potluck item to share for this event.

Also in April, I'll be hosting our after-race party for the Around Alone regatta on Saturday, April 28th. We'll be grilling out for the event. The after-race party will be \$5 per person. Keep an eye out for more details in the April newsletter. See you out on the water!

Ships Log

Yeoman: Margaret Sherrod



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.

Reflections

Past Commodore: Ned Gilchrist
The Education Club

At our regatta in October, a member of another club made a comment that I found a great tribute to our club. He was attempting to put into a word, what he thought of when he thought about Barefoot Sailing and he said, we were the "education" club.

One of the reason I have most enjoyed being a member of Barefoot is because we have a team of members that can help even the most novice sailor get into this great sport. One of the best deals *any where* to learn about sailing is BFSC's Intro to Sailing which has been taught by the membership for many years. It has been a source to get new people who have only thought about sailing involved in the club and sailing on the lake in general. As the name says, it is only an introduction to the sport. It opens the door for many that could not afford to participate or "give it a try" otherwise. What does that cost? Nothing, it comes with the membership.

Already this year, the cruising fleet has conducted special training on some cruising techniques. Plans are on the table for additional cruising instructions later this year. In the past we have held classes on foredeck, pit, crew positions, and sail trim. Whether you are a racer or a cruiser, this training is of value and we are working on having some of these again this year. What does that cost? Nothing, it comes with the membership.

As a member of Barefoot Sailing we also have monthly membership meetings where we have someone come in and share their sailing knowledge. Many times it has been a professional instructor from one of the local sailing academies. Our title sponsor for the last 3 years has been Captain Stacey Brooks of Sea Dog Sailing, a wonderful sailing school in the British Virgin Islands. She has come and shared with us. Another great sources of information, is the Power Squadron which also hold instructional classes and have been kind enough to come and teach our members. Good ahead and ask... What does that cost? Nothing, it comes with the membership.

In the area of continuing that education, BFSC has a library that members can sign our videos and instructional DVDs to learn about particular area they want to sharpen their skills on. Another great source and one often over looked, is the experience of others. You can learn so much from simply talking to our members. For those that do come out and join us on the water, whether you are racing or cruising, you are bound to learn something being around our wonderful skippers. So many are excellent teachers and friends that are willing to share their sailing knowledge. What does that cost? Nothing, it comes with the membership.

If you are a skipper that is looking for crew and you have perhaps had trouble finding someone that can pull their weight on the boat, look at Barefoot. If you are someone that would love to have the opportunity to sail, but really can't afford a boat yourself, look at Barefoot. Where else can you get so much for your membership dollars.

Next time, someone asks you, why should I join your club, tell them about the education and the friendships you make. Ask them what other sailing club or school will give you so much for so little money. Why, you can't buy a 2 hours sailing lesson with most organizations for the price of our annual membership.

Calling all Race Committee Volunteers!

As most of you have heard early on, Barefoot needs the help of its volunteers. WE need help with race committee. Do you want to run one? Thanks for your help.

If you think that you want to take on the very important role of assisting with running some of our races, let me know. We can teach you how to do it. It is not very hard, and there are always instructions available for the process. You may discover that you really like it. One of the racing position that has always been needed on this lake is the concept of having Racing Committees that are stable with experience. You could become the favorite racer out there, just by administering our sport on a frequent basis.

So, we need your help now. The form below has many openings. Training will be provided if you want to learn to become the primary Race Officer. If you really enjoy being in-change, there are PRO certification classes available through US Sailing.

I have attached the race schedule below. Just write in your name where you can support our racing and forward (fax) the sheet back to me.

Thanks,
 Rob Whitley Barefoot Racing Captain
 678-923-4625 or fax to 800-376-2026

Date	Race Name	Start Time	RC Volunteer Name /number Primary	RC Volunteer Name/ number Secondary
3/18/2007	Winter Gale #4	ST = 1 PM,		
3/21/2007	Wednesday Night Warm up #1	All sailors Welcome		
3/25/2007	BFSC Fair Winds #1	ST = 1 PM,		
3/28/2007	Wednesday Night Warm up #2	All sailors Welcome		
4/4/2007	Wednesday Night Warm up #3	All sailors Welcome		
4/22/2007	BFSC Fair Winds #2	ST = 1 PM,		
4/28/2007	BFSC Around Alone	ST = 10 AM		
5/6/2007	BFSC Fair Winds #3	ST = 1 PM,		
5/12/2007	BFSC Women Skipper's Race	ST = 1 PM		
5/19/2007	BFSC Fair Winds #4	ST = 1 PM,		
6/2/2007	BFSC Evening Breeze #1	ST = 6 PM,		
6/9/2007	BFSC Evening Breeze #2	ST = 6 PM,		
6/23/2007	BFSC Evening Breeze #3	ST = 6 PM,		

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 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!

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

Boat: Allied Seawind "Sweet Piece". Sail #: 126 Contact Jan Griffith (404) 622-5157



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