

THE TELL TALE

February 2011

The Official Publication of the Shreveport Yacht Club

COMMODORES' COMMENTS



Make Plans to join us for our Sweetheart Dinner on February 12th. There will be a cash bar from 6:30 to 7:00. Dinner is at 7:00 with a complimentary drink during dinner. Music will be by Muzik Unlimited Productions. Entrees choices are redfish or pork tenderloin catered by John Salmon. Black tie is optional. Cost is \$25 per person. Sign up in the Clubhouse by February 9th. Entrée selection must be made when you sign up.



**SWEETHEART
DINNER**

Long Range Planning The 2011 Long Range Planning Committee consist of Ed Owen - Chair, Kaye Crichlow - 1st Past Commodore, Henry Baker - 2nd Past Commodore, John Childress - Board Member, Larry LaBorde & Edward Taylor. In addition , we have a few consultant/ad hoc members. **Our immediate plans** are to submit a preliminary action plan for critical infrastructure repair to the Board. This will include shoring up the existing covered B pier, demolition of derelict sailboat slips in B pier, relocation of six (6) of the B pier sailboat slips, along with replacement of C pier sailboat slips adjacent to the concrete walkway, temporary repair of concrete apron around large hoist and patch, seal & stripe parking lot.. **In the long run**, we will review the condition of all "long term" Club equipment & facilities to determine their remaining useful life, obtain estimates of replacement/repair cost and put into a spreadsheet with expenditure by year. **In addition, with input from the membership and the Board**, we will consider any other needed improvements to the Club along with cost of such improvements. Please contact any of the above Committee members with any ideas you may have for repair, replacement or enhancement of any of our Club facilities. **You may email your information to syclrp@gmail.com**. If possible, please leave a short written description of your request with the Club Manager along with your contact information so we may discuss in detail.

A lot is going on. Sailing will resume, Polliwogs are coming back, Super Bowl Chili and Cornbread Cook-off is scheduled along with the Valentine's Day and Sweetheart Banquet and the annual business meeting. Your Committees are hard at work. A budget is in the works and a dues increase is being discussed. Some new money is needed to maintain the club in a manner expected, keeping it nice and also keeping up with inflation.

Some of the issues that we are looking at involve repairing or replacing B Pier and the hoist area deck. Other issues include the increasing costs of operation. We want your involvement and input to make the best decisions for the club. I hope you mark it on your calendar to attend the annual meeting on Friday, February 18 at 6:30PM. Budget and By-Law

Consider this; the price of gold in November 2004 was \$437 per ounce. The price of oil in November 2004 was \$44 per barrel. In November 2004, your dues were set at \$72.75.

Longtime member and Harbormaster Jim Monroe has died. He was a talented engineer and a gifted boatwright. His presence will be missed. Please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers.

David McCary - Commodore

The Shreveport Yacht Club

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www.shreveportyachtclub.com

Clubhouse closed Monday & Tuesday
Office Hours: Wednesday – Friday: Noon to 6pm
Bar Hours: Wednesday – Friday: 3pm to 10pm
Saturday: Noon to 10pm
Sunday: Noon to 8:30pm
(Subject to Change at Managers Discretion)
Kitchen Hours: Saturday & Sunday Lunch served
11:30am to 2pm

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!!

HOLIDAY IN DIXIE

APRIL 30 - MAY 1

Plan to Participate

Now that preparations are under way for another sailing season at SYC, I want to repeat myself on a point that I've made before: the key to having fun on sailboats is participation with other sailors. Sailing solo can certainly be fun and relaxing at times, but after a while it may become monotonous. Make it a point to invite friends along to crew with you or round up a group of sailing buddies and sail your boats together. If you are a racer or if you'd like to try it, make it happen. Gas up the car, hitch the boat and go to a regatta. Then bring your new friends back here the next time we host an event. Our SYC Sunday races and the distance race on the first Saturday of each month offer great opportunities for camaraderie. Get involved with youth sailing or serve on a race committee. Improve your skills by taking a sailing class through the club. There's so much you can do. Your involvement makes our club better for everyone, including you.

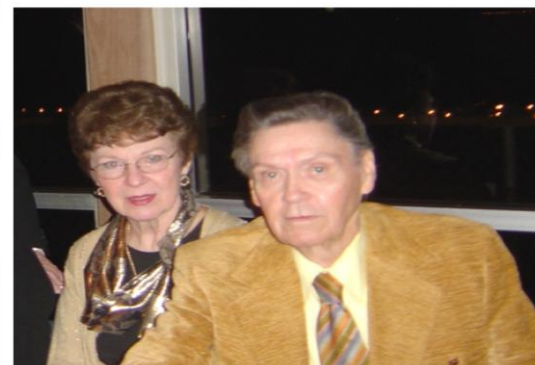
On Wednesday the 19th, a group of ten Hobie sailors representing nine boats formed America's newest Hobie fleet. The fleet's goal: make sailing more fun by sponsoring fun events and increasing the number of sailors. I'll write more about Hobie Fleet 401 next month. I see opportunities for other classes at SYC to energize. Take Lasers for example. There are several of them, all in reasonably good condition, sitting on the annex collecting dust and lichens. There may be an opportunity for Laser sailors to organize to some degree. Encourage others to get their boats out and sail (maybe they'll knock the lichens off while they're at it). If you have a boat that's collecting dust, consider selling it to someone that will use it. Try to match seaworthy or salvageable boats up with new owners. I hate to see good boats rot from neglect. Our new Hobie fleet may try to salvage a Hobie 16 from all those old derelicts on the annex and let the youth program have it.

This winter would be a good time to start planning your participation in spring/summer events. Get your boats ready, clean them up, tune them, take care of those things you've said you'll do later. Read the racing rules and/or study tactics. For those of you with an eye towards racing, here are a few regattas you may want to plan on. Do a little more research and make sure these aren't limited to certain classes or types. There's a bunch of other regattas on the Texas Youth Circuit calendar, but I don't know the venues for most of them. We'll post that schedule in the club.

- SYC Holiday-In-Dixie, April 30 – May 1, open to all classes
- Leukemia Cup, May 6-7, Dallas Corinthian Yacht Club, Lake Lewisville, Keelboats and Hobies
- Spring Dinghy fest, May 14-15, Rush Creek Yacht Club, Texas (Sunfish Only?)
- Slip-To-Ship, Memorial Day weekend, Ocean Springs Yacht Club, Mississippi, Open regatta
- SW Regional's South, June 4-5, Lake Canyon Yacht Club, Canyon Lake Texas (Sunfish Only?)
- Horn Island Hop, 4th of July weekend, Ocean Springs Yacht Club, Mississippi, Open regatta
- White Rock Regatta, August 27-28, White Rock Boat Club, Dallas
- Austin Centerboard, September 3-4, Austin Yacht Club
- Hobie Mid-Americas, September 3-4, Dallas Corinthian Yacht Club, Lake Lewisville
- Heart of Texas Regatta, September 10-11, Belton, Texas
- Hobie Daggerboard Divisional, September 17-18, Lake Tawokoni, Texas

So these are some ideas for starters. Go out and have some fun!

Mark Van Doren



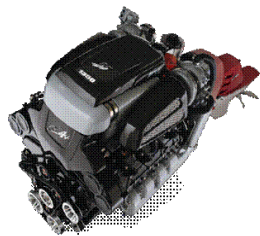
In Memory

Jim Monroe sailed into uncharted waters last month. Jim was a familiar Saturday and Sunday morning figure at the yacht club, where he enjoyed his interactions with fellow early risers over breakfast. Peggy, his lovely and supportive wife, accompanied him at club social functions (see picture). Jim was passionate about sailing and the yacht club; he was a club member for more than 25 years. Well-schooled in naval engineering and architecture, his knowledge of boats, boat construction, and boat repair was vast. He readily shared this encyclopedic knowledge, but one had to ask. You see, Jim was an admirably modest and understated man. He spent years building and designing boats with Hollis Metcalf, the founder of Shreveport's South Coast Seacraft Co. Jim also flew B-17s and B-29s during WWII, but, true to his form, this was found out later and only by accident. South Coast began production with two classic Carl Alberg designs in 1965, the SC 23 and the SC 21. South Coast produced more than 4,000 sailboats, over 3000 of which were the versatile SC 22. The company ceased operation in 1981. Jim was the company's chief engineer. Jim, we will miss you.

Sailing News

In January, **Peggy Green & Cindy Maggio** each completed their US Sailing Certification. These two women had the grit and perseverance to don wet suits, brave 50°F water and 15 mph wind to complete their Small Boat Certifications and their JY-15 Club Boat Use Certifications. They may now check out a Club-owned JY-15 with confidence, and, at their own discretion, sail unsupervised. The Club Boat Use Certification Policy was developed in 2010 for safety's sake, after some near misses. Peggy and Cindy are the first women to complete this certification. **Way to go girls!** The policy consists of a SYC sailing instructor's endorsement for basic sailing skills and a boat checkout procedure. On the day of a sail, a float plan must be turned in, just in case the sailor does not make it back on time. More information on the policy can be obtained by contacting Ed Owen or Harold Battarbee. Also, a summary of the process will be available soon on the Club's web page. Just click on the Sailing Education link. Also, within the Sailing Education link, a link to the Shreveport Yacht Club Youth Sailing Program Facebook Page can be found. This is a very active place! Check it out!





Pure Power



OK motor heads this one's for you! It's February and well, it is what it is ... freaking cold and your boat is winterized anyway, or it better be! On the other hand, for those of you who decided NOT to winterize this year, you're most likely looking at replacing a cracked block this spring. So, this article could not be timelier. Just think, replacing that tired Old stock engine with a brand new screaming 1350 horses under the hood. Sends chills up my back! Grab a cold one and enjoy the heart racing...

Description of the new Mercury 1350.

Mercury Racing has led the world of high-performance boating with Engines that epitomize power and speed for more than 70 years. Since the day Mercury Racing was founded, we've committed ourselves to the art of innovation. Today, We're proud to introduce an engine that is the culmination of everything we've ever learned. Introducing the 1350, Mercury Racing's most powerful, durable, and efficient engine yet. The first stern-drive engine package ever fully designed in-house - from block to prop - by Mercury Racing engineers, the 1350 delivers an on-water experience that will drive you farther and longer than ever before. This isn't merely an engine. This is history in the making. This is a watershed.

ZERO EFFORT(r) DIGITAL CONTROL

The newly designed, ergonomic Zero Effort Digital Control delivers precision that makes throttling effortless. Utilizing the Propulsion Control Module (PCM) microprocessor - the brain behind the engine's brawn - we achieved a seamless integration for optimal control. From the SmartCraft(r) Digital Throttle & Shift to the Engine Guardian(r) System, Mercury Racing's "smart" technology presents a worry-free, intuitive on-water experience.

DRESSED TO THRILL

Along with luxury-car-like drivability, the 1350 delivers elements of stylistic sophistication that make each engine look as good as it runs. For the first time ever, we've hidden the necessary chaos of wires and tubes beneath customizable carbon fiber Covers available in 10 paint options. Two of which - SuperSilver Metallic and Bling-Bling Black Metallic - are new to the Mercury Racing array. The sleek, sexy, and 100% show ready, these engines will have boaters fighting an internal battle: one side wanting to heat up the docks, other itching to throttle into open waters.

New Board Induction

On Jan. 2nd the Club's newly elected Board of Directors was sworn in by outgoing Commodore Kaye Crichlow (Please see pictures). These club officers are now recruiting volunteers to fill standing and *ad hoc* committees. Do not be surprised if you feel a tap on your shoulder. These committees and your spirit of volunteerism are vital to our Club's operation. Left to right, the board members are: David McCary (Commodore), Bill Sniffen (Vice-Commodore), Kaye Crichlow (Rear-Commodore), Kevin Willey (Secretary), Bob Kehoe (Treasurer), Bill Dykes (Member-at-Large), Will Manwaring (Member-at-Large), and John Childress (Member-at Large). Wish them fair sailing.



Congratulations...

DieHard Award. In 2009 and 2010, Steven Pracht and Mitch Guess, respectively, each received the prestigious DieHard Award. This award is given to those stoic individuals who exhibit unusual tenacity and passion in the sport of sailing. Like the Sears DieHard battery, they just refuse to give up, rain or shine. This award is exhibited on the wall in the Club's bar.

Book Club *Steel Magnolias* meets *The Help* in this Southern debut novel sparkling with humor, heart, and feminine wisdom. Laugh-out-loud funny and deeply touching, Beth Hoffman's sparkling debut is, as Kristin Hannah says, "packed full of Southern charm, strong women, wacky humor, and good old-fashioned heart." It is a novel that explores the indomitable strengths of female friendship and gives us the story of a young girl who loses one mother and finds many others. (From the publisher.) The SYC book club will be at 10:30 on Feb. 19th at the home of Carolyn Battarbee, 10811 Kina Circle, Keithville. Regrets only rsvp at 469-9139.



Santa's Visit... On Sunday, December the 19th Santa and Mrs. Claus made their annual visit to all the good little sailors at the SYC. Reindeer Kevin Willey and Tom Hadel drove the SYC sleigh, otherwise known as the Race Committee over to the T-Pier to bring Santa. This year Wain and Debbie Thompson graciously agreed to don the appropriate suits and hand out the gifts to the waiting children and grandchildren. Many pictures were taken and much merriment was had by all.

FEBRUARY 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 Power Squadron 6:30pm	4 Pot Luck 7pm	5 10am : Long Distance Races
6 11:30am: Lunch 2pm: Sunday Race Super Bowl Chili & Cornbread Cookoff	7	8	9 Deadline for Sweetheart Dinner	10 Board Meeting 6:30pm	11 Pot Luck 7pm	12 Sweetheart Dinner 6:30pm \$50 per couple
13 11:30am: Lunch 2pm: Sunday Race	14	15	16	17	18 Annual Business Meeting	19
20 11:30am: Lunch 2pm: Sunday Race	21	22	23	24	25 Pot Luck 7pm	26 North Sails University Seminar \$85 if USSAILING member
27 11:30am: Lunch 2pm: Sunday Race	28					

MARCH 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 Power Squadron 6:30pm	4 Pot Luck 7pm	5 10am : Long Distance Races
6 11:30am: Lunch 2pm: Sunday Race	7	8	9	10 Board Meeting 6:30pm	11 Pot Luck 7pm	12 International Masters & Sunfish Mid- Winters
13 11:30am: Lunch 2pm: Sunday Race International Masters & Sunfish Mid- Winters	14 International Masters & Sunfish Mid- Winters	15 International Masters & Sunfish Mid- Winters	16 International Masters & Sunfish Mid- Winters	17 St. Patrick's Day International Masters & Sunfish Mid- Winters	18 International Masters & Sunfish Mid- Winters	19 International Masters & Sunfish Mid- Winters
20 11:30am: Lunch 2pm: Sunday Race International Masters & Sunfish Mid- Winters	21	22	23	24	25 Pot Luck 7pm	26
27 11:30am: Lunch 2pm: Sunday Race	28	29	30	31		

Managers Notes

The New Year has brought us some tremendous amount of rain, so everyone should be able to get their boats out and begin sailing! Come enjoy the lake! I look forward to seeing everyone out. We also have some great events coming up so please remember to sign up for the Chili & Cornbread Cook-off and the Sweetheart Dinner. Signup sheets are in the Clubhouse. Please welcome to the club new member: Bruce Henderson.

I also want to encourage people to submit articles and pictures for both the website and Tell Tale to shreveportyachtclub@comcast.net. Website articles can be any length while Tell Tale articles need to be approximately 350 words and submitted by the 20th of the month.

Have a great Month - Will Bittick