



# The Tell Tale

The Official Publication of the Shreveport Yacht Club

## Holiday In Dixie 2011 - What A Great Weekend!

SYC held its annual Holiday In Dixie Regatta on the weekend of April 30 – May 1. From all appearances, the event was a huge success! Forty nine boats were registered with skippers and crews from Arkansas, Mississippi, Oklahoma and Texas. Several classes had enough boats to constitute their own fleets with their own starts, including: Catalina 22s; Hobie 16s, 17s and 20s; J-22s; Sunfish; Thistles; Portsmouth monohull; and Rhino (boats over 25 feet).

George Speckman took top honors in the Portsmouth class. Jim and Debbie Ott from Tyler won the Catalina 22 class while the crew of Tom Hadel, Eric Governor and Mitch Guess took the win in the J-22 fleet with bullets (wins) in four out of five races. In the Rhino fleet, Linda Shemwell was first and John Childress was second.

From the efforts of Jim Kincaid and Frank and Edward Taylor they were able to lure a fleet of five Thistles to compete in this year's HID and also establish our event as their District Championship. The crew of Tom Glover, Ann Bertolet and Brett Wunderlich were victorious, narrowly edging out Jim Kincaid, Beth Kincaid and Liz LaBorde.

This year's HID marked the inaugural event for SYC's newly organized Hobie Fleet 401. It was the first time in ten years that we've had one-design Hobie racing on Cross Lake. Nine Hobies visited from out of town to race against three Hobies and a Super Cat from the SYC. Jerome and Janie Vaughan from Jackson, MS, won the Hobie 16 class. Reigning Hobie 17 National Champion, Phil Collins, from Oklahoma City, put on a clinic and swept the 17 fleet, taking bullets in all six races. Chris and Margie Johnston from Tyler had the fastest cat on the lake, claiming victory in the Hobie 20 class. Mark Bengé of Fleet 131 in Oklahoma City was gracious enough to drive down and serve as the Hobie Primary Race Officer (PRO) and brought extra sets of marks, flags and radios, thus providing the infrastructure for a separate Hobie course.

The Sunfish made a strong showing as usual. HID once again was a stop in the La-Tex Challenge series, with eleven Fish competing. PRO C.P. Burks came over from Fort Worth to put the Sunfish through a rigorous workout, completing 15 races on their dedicated course over the two-day event. The ultimate victor in the Sunfish class was former National Champion Greg Gust of Rockwall, TX.

I can't say "Thank you" enough to all of the volunteers that helped put Holiday In Dixie together. Special thanks go out to Mike Gandy, Bill Sniffen, Bob Kehoe, Josh Brian, Chris Johnston, Coco Hudson and Lisa Brutto for volunteering huge chunks of their time to help run the Hobie course. To Chung Mai, Catherine Jack, Ed Owen, David McCary, and Harold Battarbee for providing the muscle needed to make the Sunfish event a success. To Chuck Moffet for scoring the Portsmouth and Rhino fleets. To Wiley and Amy Pollard who ran the committee boat and to Eddie and Joey Wilbanks who were the chase boat. To Jerry Kolinak who catered the Spaghetti dinner on Friday night. Also, to the Dallas area Hobie dealer, Mariner Sails, and Annapolis Performance Sailing (APS) for providing sponsorship in the form of sailing accessories and gift certificates. I especially want to thank our wonderful staff for all of their hard work. No doubt I'll remember someone that I've overlooked after this goes to press, but regardless, your contribution is greatly appreciated.

I'm looking forward to your participation, either as a competitor, volunteer, or spectator, in the Cross Lake Combeaux, October 15-16.

Mark Van Doren  
SYC Regatta Chairman  
Hobie Fleet 401 Commodore



June 8<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> Steven Pracht will be competing in the Sunfish Junior Worlds 2011 in Curacao. Good Luck Steven, the SYC is rooting for you!



After an unusually bitter cold spurt it's finally "fire um up, and turn and burn" time. And it's about time! Winters are brutal, even if we really don't have one, at least by Northern standards. Anyway, thinking about what to write I was perusing through several of my current go fast mags and noticed that all of them had a similar theme ... the need for speed. So, to maintain and further the cause I have taken excerpts from articles authored by Randy Vance, editor of Boating Magazine and Pete McDonald contributing author for Boating Magazine. It's a historical look at how all this go fast stuff started. Fascinating read enjoy, and get out on the water! "Speed is a quest unquenchable"

**Bad Boys Were Good Business**

*Miami Vice* lives on beyond its time. Its portrayal of go-fast boats brought a new image to the scene. Like with Harley-Davidson motorcycles, enthusiasts flocked to brands like Cigarette and Scarab for the outlaw image. Doctors, lawyers and businessmen could get behind the wheel of a go-fast boat and feel like a bad boy.

The emerald-green waters of Florida's Government Cut are calm when the engines of a long, slender boat start to rumble. The sound builds until, suddenly, the stiletto-shaped boat slices through the water, ripping long V-wakes that flatten out slightly as the speed increases fantastically. The boat zips through the Cut, looping north into two-foot swells, running along South Beach and finding its groove.

It's a "go-fast," a Sunsation 36 XRT, and it is perfectly in its element. So is Wayne Schaldenbrand, who built it. Nope, his boat is built in Michigan, but it's here today, cutting through open water against the backdrop of Miami glitz.

This may be where modern offshore powerboats were born, but Schaldenbrand caught his bug for it from his grandfather, who hand-built Chris-Crafts and other mahogany treasures, then powered them with one or two of the biggest engines he could.

"My first speedboat ride was in one of those," Schaldenbrand says. "It probably went 35 miles per hour." That's all he needed to launch him and his brother on a career of building and driving fast boats. He was where the heart of this sport still beats steadily with adrenalin and high-octane fuel.

The performance scene slipped beneath the mainstream boating radar the past few years, as the recession and outrageous fuel prices sent people away. But boats like the Sunsation, Formula's FasTech 353 and the 50 Cigarette Marauder, which turned heads at the recent Miami International Boat Show, proves that performance boats are back. So too does the announcement from Mercury Racing of a new 1,100 hp engine, on the heels of last year's 1,350 hp V-8. And that's a good thing. The performance world has always pushed the envelope for all aspects of power boating.

Flying Monkey

**Through the Years**

**1900**

**1903** American Power Boat Association (APBA) founded.

**1904** First offshore powerboat race held – a run across the English Channel.

**1931** Car Wood breaks the 100 mph barrier in his boat *Miss America IX*, reaching 102.25 mph.

**1932** Car Wood takes *Miss America X* to 124.9 mph. The 30-foot-10-inch boat was powered by four 1,800 hp Peckard inboards.

**1936** First Miami-to-Nassau race run, launching the sport of offshore racing in the United States.

**1938** Jim Wynne takes Charlie Strang's stem-drive idea and patents it for production and sale as the Aquamatic Drive with Volvo Penta.

**1958** Raymond Hunt designs his famous deep-V hull, changing the way boats could run on plane in seas.

**1960** Richard Bonham builds the 31 Mopple based on Ray Hunt's design and wins the Miami-Nassau race in record time.

**1963** Don Aronow builds the Formula 233.

**1969** Aronow drives a World Champion boat named *Cigarette*, a 32-foot Cary.

**1977** Betty Cook becomes the first woman to win the world Offshore Championship, racing her 38-foot *Kaimit*.

**1984** *Miami Vice* airs, bringing performance powerboats to national attention. First with a Chris-Craft Stinger 390 and later with a Wellcraft Scarab 36 KV.

**1987** Aronow is gunned down on 188th Street, the famous "Thunderboat Row."

**2003** Cigarette Racing moves off Thunderboat Row to a new facility in Opa-Locka, marking the end of an age.

**2010** Fountain, Donzi and Baja all reorganize under American Marine Holdings, with boats to be built in North Carolina.

**2011**

# CLUB HOURS

**Clubhouse is closed on Monday & Tuesday**

**Office Hours:**

Wednesday – Sunday  
Noon to 6 p.m.

**Bar Hours:**

Wednesday – Friday  
3 p.m. to 10 p.m.  
Saturday  
Noon to 10 p.m.  
Sunday  
Noon to 8:30 p.m.

**Kitchen Hours:**

Lunch is served every  
Saturday & Sunday  
11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**Gas Hours:**

Saturday  
9:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.  
Sunday  
Noon to 6 p.m.

The Tell Tale, along with updated information is always available on our website. Check it out!

**Contributions to The Tell Tale are always welcome. Please email correspondence to [shreveportyachtclub@comcast.net](mailto:shreveportyachtclub@comcast.net)**



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# Commodore's Comments

I would like to thank Mark Van Doren, Chairman of the Regatta Committee, for an excellent job with the 2011 Holiday in Dixie Regatta. The SYC staff had the club in great shape. The weather cooperated and the turnout was good. Thanks to everyone for the hard work.

I understand the adult sailing course and the junior sailing camps are almost full. There may be some openings. If you are interested in these, please contact Harold Battarbee at: [hbattarbee@comcast.net](mailto:hbattarbee@comcast.net).

Come out and enjoy the Club.  
Your Commodore,

Bill Sniffen

# SYC Ladies' Book Club

The next meeting of the Ladies' Book Club will be held on Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. in the Clubhouse. Brunch will be served and the host for the event will be Debbie Thompson. This month's book club pick is *Freedom* by Jonathan Franzen. In his latest novel, Franzen returns to fiction with a comic and tragic epic of contemporary love and marriage. *Freedom* captures the temptations and burdens of liberty: the thrills of teenage lust, the shaken compromises of middle age, the wages of suburban sprawl, the responsibility of privilege. Charting the characters' mistakes and joys as they struggle to learn how to live in an ever-changing and confusing world, *Freedom* is an indelible and deeply moving portrait of our time.

# MANAGER'S NOTES

A great time was had by all at the Annual Membership Appreciation Night. Many thanks to those who decorated the Club, Kevin Willey for coordinating the lavish array of hors d'oeuvres, Ruby, Ivy, & Blake for manning the kitchen, Erik for keeping the drinks flowing and Desiree for prepping and cleaning the club.

As a reminder wet bathing suits are not to be worn in the Clubhouse, including the Bar. When entering the Clubhouse or Bar a shirt or cover-up and shoes must be worn.

Looking forward to seeing you at the Club,  
Will Bittick  
Manager

# June 2011 Calendar of Events

Sunday      Monday      Tuesday      Wednesday      Thursday      Friday      Saturday

<b>Please confirm dates &amp; times with</b>			Club Closed in Observance of Memorial Day	Power Squadron 6:30 pm	Pot Luck 7 pm	Long Distance Race Book Club Brunch 10:30 am Cross Lake Floatilla
11:30 am Lunch 2 pm Sunday Race	SYC Jr. Sailing Session #1					
11:30 am Lunch 2 pm Sunday Race	SYC Jr. Sailing Session #2			Board Meeting 6:30 pm	Pot Luck 7 pm	
11:30 am Father's Day Lunch 2 pm Sunday Race					Pot Luck 7 pm	
11:30 am Lunch 2 pm Sunday Race						

# July 2011 Calendar of Events

Sunday      Monday      Tuesday      Wednesday      Thursday      Friday      Saturday

<b>Please confirm dates &amp; times with the Office before making plans.</b>					Pot Luck 7 pm	Long Distance Race
11:30 am Lunch 2 pm Sunday Race	<b>Independence Day BBQ</b>		Club Closed in Observance of Independence Day	Power Squadron 6:30 pm	Pot Luck 7 pm	
11:30 am Lunch 2 pm Sunday Race				Board Meeting 6:30 pm	Pot Luck 7 pm	Full Moon Raft Up
11:30 am Lunch 2 pm Sunday Race					Pot Luck 7 pm	
11:30 am Lunch 2 pm Sunday Race					Pot Luck 7 pm	
11:30 am Lunch 2 pm Sunday Race						