

The Mainsheet



T h u n d e r b i r d S a i l i n g C l u b

Happy New Year TSC!

Our 2010 inaugural event, the annual New Years Day Sail and Social was a great success! The food was good, the weather was fine, and the social was well attended with about 15 members present. It was the perfect winter day for a sail – sunny skies and a light breeze. Thanks to Mary Ann Secrist for taking Sheryl and me out on her Catalina 22, the “Oh Yeah”. There were 7 or 8 other boats on the lake as well (all wind-powered), not bad for January.

The Boathouse committee met last week and started filling in the calendar for the upcoming year. There will be plenty of opportunities to help train or be trained – Level 1, keelboat, adult small boat sailing, and kid’s camp sailing classes will be offered. There will also be some work days to keep the Boathouse and boat yard ship shape. The TSC board will meet this week and start putting our events on the calendar as well. Keep an eye on the calendar on our website for upcoming



L e s C u m m i n g s t o A p p e a r o n T V

Les Cummings will appear on the weekly TV interview show "The Verdict" (no he hasn't been arrested that we know of). As a result of the excellent article "Riverboat Captain" that appeared in the December 30,

2009 issue of the Journal Record, Les was invited to be a guest to appear on the 30 minute Cox Cable network show hosted by Mick Cornett and Kent Meyer. The program will be broadcast on Cox Cable Channel 7 on Sunday and Monday mornings at 9am on January 31 and February 1 and also on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings at 10am on February 2

and 3. The interview included questions on Les's career at OMRF, his background having been born on an Island in the Chesapeake Bay, working as a commercial fisherman, and of course now as a Riverboat Captain working for Ok River Cruises on the Oklahoma

TSC Annual Dues!

\$50 full, \$25 Associate and \$15 Student. For more information go to:

www.thunderbirdsailingclub.org

Membership Information

If any of your membership information has changed, please contact:

David Craigie
101 W. Marshall Dr, Midwest City OK 73110
405 741 2555 Incipient@MSN.com

Happy Birthday to the following TSC members. If your birthday is not included, it is probably because you did not share that information with your Treasurer/Membership Secretary. If you want to share your special day, please contact me at: Incipient@msn.com or phone 741 2555. Thanks, David

January

Wanda Lively 1/1
Mary Doezema 1/3
Connie Divine 1/4
Rita Hendricks 1/9
David Craigie 1/10
Howard Haines 1/15
Roger Elliott 1/17
Dorrie Trent 1/25
Reggie Frank 1/26
Laura Hamilton 1/26
February
Elsbeth Dowd 2/4
Virginia Fitzpatrick 2/5
Vicki Palone 2/6
Gray Graham 2/8
Glenda Anderson 2/9
Karen Rieger 2/12
Liz Hedrick 2/13
David Hendricks 2/20
Fabiola Spens 2/25
Isaac Finkbeiner 2/27

Treasures Report

Greetings Sailors,

Happy New Year and I sincerely hope that it brings you prosperity, fair winds and good sailing.

Winter 09-10 at Lake Thunderbird.

I heard on the news the other day that this is the 14th coldest winter since records have been kept, and that on temperature has been 3 degrees colder than average. I imagine that few members have ventured to the lake to see what it is like in the dead of winter. I know, I am kind of nuts, in weather like this heading out for my favorite anchorage for the night. I have done that a lot, but not this year; you figger.

Part of the reason I was not on the lake this last several weeks was the death of Joyce's mom; that kept us tied up in California doing what siblings do after the death of a lone parent. The other reason was that it was just plain cold, too cold to even consider starting the Yamaha. I have learned that outboards are just not engineered to start in subfreezing weather. You know it is subfreezing when you attempt to unclasp your anchor line in morning and you have to toss a bucket of water on it to thaw it out.

I was down at the lake however last Thursday and Saturday 1-7 & 1-9. Thursday was bitter cold and I wanted to keep a heater going for the next few days. When I went down Saturday, it was still bitter cold and I wondered if I would be able to get on the boat. It was frozen solid in the middle of the slip and I had to rock it quite hard to break the ice and move it over to the where I could get on.

I have seen patches of ice on our lake before, but I have never seen the lake frozen completely over. True, you could not walk on it, and there were a few small open spots where the Coots, Geese, Mallards and other water fowl could get off the frozen terra firma. But to see the lake frozen completely over seemed odd. Fortunately, this is Oklahoma and that is about as bad as it gets. Next week we will be back to normal and this will all be an unpleasant memory. I do hope that you did not have any ice damage to your boat or your home.

The upside of going to the lake when it is this cold is getting to see the wildlife. The Coots were huddled in mass on land in various places while the deer were boldly grazing in groups as large as twelve, oblivious that I was slowly driving by trying not to disturb them. Hunger and an apparent over population seem to driven them out of hiding and to seeking food in places not usually visited. Note the red tip shrubs the next time you visit the BoatHouse.

Renewal Notices:

Renewal notices were sent out last September and to date we still have many members who have failed to renew. **Please**, consider renewing your membership today. A big **THANK YOU!!!** to everyone who has taken the time to return their renewal form, or who have gone on line to renew electronically. **THANK YOU TOO**, for the generosity of all who have chosen to donate to the LTEF. Considering the economic climate in the U.S., this has been a good year from where I sit.

If you have not received your renewal notice, please get in touch with me asap.

If you would like to renew on line, just go to our club web site WWW.thunderbirdsailingclub.org click on the membership link and fill in the necessary information. NOTE: If there are no changes in your information, then you only need to fill in your first and last name and e-mail address.

Balance in the bank.

The current balance in our TSC checking account is \$6504.21. Included is an amount of \$390.90 that we are holding in trust for the Junior Sailing Club. I have no other outstanding bills. Thank you all for all that you do to support the TSC.

See you on the water

David Craigie, Treasurer, TSC

LTEF News!

The following notification has been received by the LTEF:

Lake Thunderbird Educational Foundation,

The Oklahoma Center for Nonprofits will host the Oklahoma Nonprofit Excellence Awards (ONE Awards), a gala event held April 24th, 2010 at Southern Hills Country Club, honoring the outstanding work of Oklahoma nonprofits statewide.

This event will provide a unique venue to acknowledge the nonprofit sector and its accomplishments, while rewarding the winning nonprofits with monetary prizes and recognition in a special awards video.

During the evening festivities, awards, both monetary and honorary, are presented to a winner and two finalists in each of the nine categories below:

- Arts & Humanities
- Community
- Seniors
- Education
- Health Services
- Community Health Services
- Self-Sufficiency
- Sports and Recreation

Youth Development

The winners of each of the nine categories will receive \$7,500 and each finalist in each of the nine categories will receive \$5,000. One of the nine categories winners will be selected as the overall winner and will receive \$10,000 for their organization. A total of \$160,000 will be given to outstanding ONE Award winners and finalist.

Honorees do not apply for the awards, but are nominated and selected by the Nonprofits Awards for Excellence Selection Commission.. These esteemed individuals give their time and expertise in selecting and nominating Oklahoma nonprofits in the nine categories listed above. The Members of the Selection Commission are as follows:

- Jerry Dickman, Commission Chairman
- Michael A. Cawley
- Nance Diamond
- Frederick Drummond
- Ken Fergeson
- R.H. Harbaugh
- First Lady Kim Henry
- Phil Lakin, Jr.
- Frank Merrick
- Polly Nichols
- Reverend George E. Young, Sr.
- Stanton L. Young

Following the initial nomination, the

nominated nonprofit organizations submit an application, demonstrating how they achieve excellence everyday in the work they do and why they should be consider for this significant honor.

The goal of the Oklahoma Nonprofit Awards for Excellence is to increase statewide awareness about the roles nonprofits play in contributing to the quality of life and Oklahoma's economic development.

Lake Thunderbird Educational Foundation has been nominated and I would like to discuss the nomination process with you... Congratulations! The Commission meets in mid-January to review the applications. I look forward to talking with you.

Happy New Year!

My First Report as fleet Captain

Well, there isn't much racing going on this time of the year so I will use my space here to encourage more club members to travel to other local regattas this coming year.

Some of the most fun I have ever had sailing were at other clubs as I met the club members there and got to experience their clubs and the racing that they were putting on.

Travelling to regattas isn't that hard. Sure there is some work loading the boat on the trailer and

hauling it to other clubs, but few things compare to the fun that you can have at regattas with a bunch of sailors.

On another note, I am gearing up about the upcoming racing season and hope that many of you are ready for some fun Commodores Cup racing! There will be a few changes this coming year and I hope that it will create a fun environment for some close competition.

Some of the changes will include:

- Nightly Prizes for winning boat
- Social time after the racing on the Marina Dock
- Pursuit racing so that the fast boats don't always finish first
- More marks for interesting courses

I can't wait to see you all on the water!

Vernon Green

Come Sail With the Sea Scouts!

Between the ages of 14-21?

Join the Sea Scouts!

Do you like to sail, but don't have a boat
or
a crew?

Join the Sea Scouts!

Is the only thing that you do on Saturday
is
cut the grass or watch TV?

Join the Sea Scouts!

Do you know any teenagers that would like
to have fun learning to sail?

Bring them to the Sea Scouts!

The Sea Scout Ship has a fine fleet of small sailboats
as well as larger keelboats. Instructors have
U.S. Sailing Credentials.

◇ Saturdays from 10am-2pm at the beautiful
Lake Thunderbird BoatHouse at Thunderbird
State Park.

◇ For more info contact Skipper Rick Shaw 306-
8597 by phone or email
Shaw9939@SBCGlobal.net

◇ For all young men and women of good character
between the ages of 14 and 21.

◇ The recent membership drive has been very
successful, the Sea Scout Ship now has many
new members and a crew of over 20 including
adults!

◇ Learn to Scuba Dive

◇ Participate in community activities

◇ Have lots of fun on the water



OCU SAILING TEAM NEWS

The much anticipated Sugar Bowl Regatta 2009 has come and gone. OCU Sailing Team members Peter Harlin, Timothy Harlin, Chad Gatewood, Jose Andrade and Chris Holman gave up 4 days of their holiday to drive to New Orleans, Louisiana and compete in the 76th Annual Sugar Bowl Regatta. The event, hosted by Tulane University and the Southern Yacht Club, drew a impressive group of sailors representing University of Wisconsin, Tulane, Florida, Georgia Tech, Louisiana State, Loyola, Ohio State, Oklahoma State, Texas, Texas A&M Galveston, Texas A&M, and Oklahoma City University

OCU Sailing departed campus at 8AM on Tuesday the 29th en route to Mandeville, LA where free lodging had been arranged at St. Timothy UMC by biology Professor Kent Buchanan. Arriving about 8:30PM, we settled in and went to dinner. On the morning of the 30th, after a few hours sleep, we departed Mandeville for Metairie with a brief stop at Café du Monde for breakfast consisting of beignets and café au lait (French donuts and coffee). We were the first team to arrive at the yacht club. Wow – what a facility! The Southern Yacht Club is located in a brand new 3-story building, which is a replacement to the club's facility that had been destroyed during Hurricane Katrina. Not long after our arrival others trickled in and the skippers briefing was held at 8:30 AM.

A collegiate sailing team consists of 4 athletes, which are divided into two crews. OCU Sailing uses the designations "Blue" and "White". With the Skipper's meeting concluded, OCU Blue set off to draw while White prepped the boat. Soon after, Peter and Timothy headed out to sail 4 races. Upon their return Chris and Chad headed out for their 4. Both teams did this twice on the 1st day sailing a total of 8 races each. The elements presented challenges. Wind, rain and cool temperatures were the order of the day but both crews sailed all races. The climate was too much for some, opting to

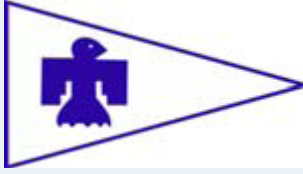
"retire" from the race in search of warmth. At the end of Day 1, OCU Sailing was in 11th place. This is a notable achievement given that OCU Sailing is only in its second semester and has enjoyed far less time on the water and time in competition than the other schools. With the day's sailing concluded, it was time to warm up, change clothes, then head to the French Quarter of New Orleans for Dinner.

Day 2 of racing started much like the first with another stop at Café du Monde. This internationally known establishment opened in the French Quarter in 1862. The original location is open 24/7/365. Lucky for us, there was a new shop about 4 blocks from where we were staying. Day 2 weather was far different from the day before. New Year's Eve greeted us with sunny skies, 66 degree temperature, and light winds. Not only was the weather different, so was team configuration as Jose Andrade stepped in to sail for Chad on OCU Blue. Light winds presented real challenges to all competitors, with the last two races being cancelled. We were pleased to see OCU alumnus Justin Hamilton show up to support the team.

OCU Sailing had been in tight competition with Florida for 11th place, going back and forth after each race. Ultimately, Florida was able to edge us out of 11th at the end of the day with Louisiana State taking top honors for the regatta. OCU Sailing has a lot going on The Spring season is coming up fast and we are making plans for the 42nd Edhec in France April 17-24. (



TSC



Thunderbird Sailing Club Officers



Commodore: Sam Tiffany
Vice-Comm: Ed & Doris
Rear-Comm: Kerry Knowles
Secretary: Stephanie Nguyen
Treasurer: Dave Craigie
Fleet Captain : Vernon Green
Past-Comm: Ted Strueli
M'sheet Ed: Vernon Green

What is Thunderbird Sailing Club

The Thunderbird Sailing Club is a non-profit corporation established in 1969 and is affiliated with the United States Sailing Association and Central States Sailing Association.

Membership is open to anyone of good moral character interested in sailing and water safety. Boat ownership is not required.

The club sponsors a full racing schedule of long distance and short course races, night races and fun races. A favorite end-of-season event is the Hiram Douglas Memorial Regatta, started in 1983.

There is a strong current of volun-

teerism in the club. Whether you are a complete novice or a dedicated racer, you will find helping hands and good advice. We have 12 US Sailing certified sailing instructors and one instructor trainer. Many of our members have raced in regional regattas, and several in national events. The cruising group has sent members to Lake Texoma, the Gulf Coast, Bahamas, British Virgin Islands, and Chesapeake Bay. And should you need it, the club's collective wisdom on boat repair, rigging, launching, marinas, etc., is extensive. TSC is also proud to sponsor Sea Scout Ship 5790.



Two boats crossing during the Hiram Douglas Regatta 2009