



www.thunderbirdsailingclub.org

Mainsheet

September 2006

Thunderbird Sailing Club
An Oklahoma Chartered Corporation Affiliated with
United States Sailing & Central States Sailing Associations

Commodore Corbett Brown

Hard to believe that the summer is nearly over, however I think we are all tired of the oppressive heat and lack of rain we've experienced for the past several months. It's been terrific though with the number of events held this summer and the wonderful volunteerism provided by so many of our TSC members.

September through November can be the best sailing months in Oklahoma. We hope to see many of you finally enjoying your boats now that the weather is more conducive to sailing.

We enjoyed Ken Hoving's presentation "Sailing in the Northwest" and I think we have several members considering a cruise in that area. Hope to see you at the TSC meeting on Sep. 16 when we'll have Mike Kelly of OKC BoatWorks give us tips on winterizing your boat.

Happy Sailing!

Corbett and Beth

Congratulations!

A hearty "Welcome Aboard" to Ted and Beckey Streuli's new crew, Raymond Theodore Streuli! He was born August 16 and weighed in at 6 pounds and 11 ounces.

Shown with the hand- his beautiful sister some little crewmate is Kaitlin. All are doing well!

The TSC mem- its congratula- forward to est crew mate Sailing Camp August 2014. Lake will be that time!



Not sure that Chad and Les will be teaching in 2014, but we know the program will exist! Photo by: Ted Streuli

P.O. Box 1652
Norman, Oklahoma 73070

Note: The TSC and BoatHouse are sharing the new PO box as listed above!



LAKE THUNDERBIRD BOATHOUSE
Roger Elliott
President, LTEF

BoatHouse 2005 Annual Report

Thanks to Howard Haines' perseverance, we now have a completed BoatHouse Annual Report for 2005. On behalf of the LTEF board of directors, I thank each partner organization that provided information for this important document. The data is very useful for planning, grant writing, and as a benchmark to judge how we are doing as an organization.

Following are some of the statistics from the report:
Note: 2001 was the BH construction year!

**And a Hearty "Thank you" TSC!
Volunteer Hours by organization.**

Organization	Volun- teers	Hours
Thunderbird Sailing Club	48	1673
Sea Scout Ship 5790	18	383
Sooner Sail Club & Team	11	239
Guests	7	53
Junior Sailing Team	1	15
Norman Sail & Power Squadron	17	180
USCG Auxiliary Flotilla 16-6	1	8
O.U.Naval ROTC	4	37
OKC Sail & Power Squadron	15	159
Hobie Fleet 63	1	11
	123	2758

<u>5 year</u>	<u>Vol/hrs.</u>	<u>Comparison</u>
Year	Vol's	Hours
2000	55	712
2001	124	3231
2002	107	2223
2003	97	2169
2004	102	2575

Vice Commodore *Barbara Schindler*

Mike Kelly, owner of OKC Boatworks, will discuss "Keeping Boats Shipshape in Winter and Summer" at the general meeting on September 16. A visual example of Mike's work can be seen docked at Little River Marina, Dock C. Her name is "Bits and Pieces." Under the skilled hands of makeover artists Mike, Walt Hedrick, and others, literally bits and pieces were formed into a boat that became a formidable contender in local races and regional races.

When Mike is not at his day job as service manager of a three state area for R. K. Black Co., he can be found refurbishing customers' boats at his facility, OKC Boatworks. He and Nolan Armstrong, in addition to making repairs, transform less than ordinary boats into princesses of the sea. The TSC Vice-Commodore's boat is one example of their magic.

Mike has been sailing since he was eight. He and several other local sailors, including Walt Hedrick, Nolan Armstrong, and Bill Nations, qualified for the Olympic Trials, a very competitive competition where only the first place boat goes forward. Mike's wife of 18 years and his three daughters are very supportive of his activities.

Bring your sailing and boat maintenance questions and a favorite dish to share with your TSC friends! See you on the 16th!

Cruising the San Juans: Are You Interested??

In his presentation at the August meeting, Ken Hoving discussed the joys of cruising western Canada. He showed photos taken from his boat of the beautiful scenery of western Canada. As part of his presentation, he distributed booklets about the availability of charter rental in the San Juan Islands. When the audience was asked about their interest in exploring the possibility of chartering boats and cruising the area around the San Juan's, about half the hands in the audience went up.

Some 450 islands dot the San Juan and Gulf Islands archipelago. The islands are shielded from ocean storms by 300 mile long Vancouver Island. They lie in the rain shadow of Washington's Olympic Mountains. The result? Sunny, protected, line-of-sight cruising among picturesque forested islands.

Numerous charter companies serve the area. The company that Ken Hoving has high praise for is San Juan Yachting. They have a fleet of 35 boats of different sizes and costs. According to the brochure and to Ken the boats are well equipped and clean and the company provides continuous counseling while preparations are being made.

As with any great endeavor in our democracy, we need to form a committee to determine the type of boats and the date. If you have an interest in helping to plan the arrangements and the time of year, please contact me at my email address: bschin@cox.net.

Unsung Hero Jerry Lojka

We have lots and lots of heroes at the BoatHouse, and we'd like to take this opportunity to recognize a TSC member who continues his work quietly and efficiently and usually behind the scenes.

Whether its re-glassing some worn out fiberglass on one of the Sea Scout boats, helping with several sailing classes during the summer, serving as Information Officer for the BoatHouse Management Committee, or cutting the grass around the BoatHouse. You just know that if Jerry says that he'll take care of it, you can rest assured that he will "Git R Done."

We remember, back in 2001, when we were given access to the in-construction BoatHouse, that Jerry was one of the first BoatHouse volunteers to arrive that first Saturday workday. His good work with drywall, electrical, lighting, and exhaust fan installation, is just a sampling of his efforts on behalf of the BoatHouse and the TSC.

Earlier this summer Jerry served as mentor for several Sea Scouts taking their first Caribbean sailing trip. He is an excellent sailor in his own right and the TSC is fortunate to have Jerry Lojka as a volunteer and a person who quietly leads by example.

Three cheers for our good friend Jerry Lojka!
Hip Hip Hooray, Hip Hip Hooray, Hip Hip Hooray

FLEET CAPTAIN *Kerry Knowles*

Thunderbird Sailing Club **2006 Race and Recreation Schedule**

09/04	Monday McDonalds Cup	1:30
09/10	Sunday Commodores Cup Race	1:00
10/08	Sunday Layton Regatta	10:00
11/05	Sunday Hiram Douglas Regatta	10:00

And other fun and challenging events as may be deemed necessary and be sure to **come out for the McDonald's Cup Regatta on Labor Day!**

Kerry Knowles, Fleet Captain

PS. The CAST for Kids fishing derby is Sat. 9/16/06!

JERRY LAYTON REGATTA
Sunday, October 8, 2005

The 14th annual Jerry Layton Catalina Fleet race will be coming up on October 8 this year. We will need 5 Catalina 22's to use for the regatta again this year, if you own one or have access to one that we could use, please let me know. Skipper's meeting at 10am sharp.

The format of the regatta is set up to allow for both new and experienced sailors to participate as crew and to have an opportunity to race with 5 experienced skippers. Each boat will have three permanent crew members during the regatta, and the 5 skippers will switch from boat to boat following each short race. This enables each skipper to race on each of the 5 boats. The Regatta Chair will assign the crew to each boat.

The Layton Regatta has been a fundraiser for the TSC RC boat and safety boat for the past 14 years. Each year we have raised approximately \$300 for the TSC boat maintenance fund. Traditionally, we have asked the previous winner to serve aboard the RC boat the following year, so this year we extend the invitation to last year's and the only two-time winner. Skipper Paul Reynolds.

There are no prerequisites for the crew positions, other than registering with me and paying the \$15. The skippers must be members of TSC and have keel-boat racing experience. If there is any question regarding a skipper's qualifications the final decision will be made by the TSC Race Committee. Safety of the crews and boats is always a major factor.

Skipper and Crew spots fill up quickly, to register, please send an email to les-cummings@omrf.ouhsc.edu and ask to be put on either the skipper or crew list for the Layton Regatta. When more than 5 skippers or 15 crew are registered, we will put additional registrants on the waiting list. Of course, we will need a couple of the BoatHouse powerboats to help with safety boat and mark boat duties.

Awards and dinner are provided at the BoatHouse following the regatta.

Les Cummings, Layton Regatta Chair

Below are photos of my Grandson, William "Will" Connor Lange, born last year on the same day as the Layton Regatta. Photo on left as he got home and on the right as a 10 month old fisherman.



JERRY LAYTON REGATTA
Notice of Race

WHEN: Sunday, October 8

WHERE: Thunderbird BoatHouse

TIME: Skipper's meeting 10am sharp

WHAT: Catalina 22 fleet race as a fundraiser for the TSC RC/Safety Boat. In honor of Past-Commodore, Jerry Layton.

A terrific way to meet fellow sailors and learn about racing while raising funds for a good cause.

WHO: Need 5 TSC experienced keelboat skippers

Need 15 crew, do not need to be members of TSC nor do they need to be experienced crew.

Need 5 Catalina 22 sailboats

HOW: Just send an email to:
les-cummings@omrf.ouhsc.edu to sign up.

FEES: Make your checks out to the Thunderbird Sailing Club. \$10 to crew and \$25 to skipper!

HELP: Needed on safety/mark boats, the RC boat and with the food prep at the BoatHouse. Dinner will be provided after the regatta and prior to the awards.

BRING: Please bring your PFD or borrow one from the BoatHouse

The BoatHouse will be open for non-participants, members, and friends to watch the racing from the deck. Results will be announced via VHF radio following each race.



The photo above shows the 2005 race just before very nice winds settled in for perfect sailing. Here the Whimsy and crew await the breeze!
 Photo by Dave Craigie

CAST FOR KIDS

Fishing Derby for children with disabilities

The Thunderbird Sailing Club is one of many sponsors of the Catch a Special Thrill (CAST) Fishing derby held annually at the Lake Thunderbird BoatHouse.

Starting back in 2002, the 5th annual event is on tap for Saturday, September 16. The event provides some 35-40 handicapped children with a terrific morning fishing trip on beautiful Lake Thunderbird. Each child receives a T-shirt (with the names of the sponsors), a hat, a new rod & reel, tackle box, tackle, and bait. They are teamed up with one of the fishermen and leave the dock around 9am and return around 11:30.

When they return from their fishing trip they are welcomed by Master of Ceremonies, Ron Stahl of Discover Oklahoma and a delicious luncheon provided to everyone by Albertson's Foods. After lunch gifts are provided to each child and prizes are drawn for the fishermen.

The CAST for Kids local committee consists of Jeff Tompkins of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Susan Hendon, Manager, Thunderbird State Park, Chad Cox, Secretary and board member of the LTEF and TSC member, and Les Cummings, LTEF board member and TSC member. Their duties are working with Art Pasley, Regional Director for the CAST for Kids Foundation, registering fishermen and their boats, signing up children for the event, and raising funds and acquiring gifts for the event.

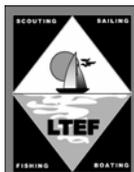
The event (usually in September) is scheduled once the OU home football schedule is known. Serious fundraising efforts usually begin after the first of the year and the big push comes following the West Marine Fun Regattas usually held in late July.

This is a terrific community event and it is great that it doesn't require a lot of manpower from the TSC and the BoatHouse consortium. Volunteers come from the Dept. of Tourism and Recreation, Wildlife Conservation Dept., Thunderbird State Park, other local groups, and of course from the TSC and some of the BoatHouse partners. Last year Albertson's alone had nearly 50 people volunteer and we had a list of clean up projects for them at the BoatHouse! The T-bird Wed. Night Bass Tournament group help each year as well.

So, if you want to lend a hand, the BoatHouse will open around 5:30 on Saturday morning, Sept. 16 and volunteers and fishermen will start to arrive around 6am. We can use some help cleaning up around 2PM too. If you would like to donate to the event, just drop a tax deductible check to LTEF, PO Box 1756, Norman, OK 73070-1756 and be sure to include a note that the donation is for the CAST for Kids Fishing Derby!

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THESE COMMUNITY EVENTS!





LAKE THUNDERBIRD BOATHOUSE
Les Cummings
Fundraising Chair, LTEF

Following are educational statistics from Howard's 2005 BoatHouse Annual Report. We express our appreciation to all those who volunteered for the BH educational programs in 2005. These are very impressive numbers and proves the BoatHouse is living up to its educational mission.

Class	Hrs Instruction, beginning	Students	Instructors	Mentors	Staff Hrs
Boat Smart	20, Feb 21	~20	2		36
First Aid & CPR Training	6, Feb 26	9	1		6
First Aid & CPR Training	6, April 12	6	1		6
Safety Boat Training & Instructor/Mentor Orientation	6, April 16	18	4		16
Basic Keel Boat Sailing	20, Apr 22	2	2		27
NROTC Basic Sailing	24, May 1	7	5	2	84
Beginning Sailing for Adults	28, June 6	5	5	2	83
Basic Keel Boat Sailing	20, June 17	6	1	5	39
Sailing Smart Day Camp	27, June 20	17	8	9	324
Essentials of Sailing	3, June 29	2	1	3	39
Sailing Smart Day Camp	27, July 11	17	7	14	321
Girl Scout Merit Badge Wkshp	8, July	7	1	2	24
Beginning Sailing for Adults	23, July 25	6	4	4	87
NROTC Basic Sailing	20, Aug 15	14	7	15	184
Basic Keel Boat Sailing	20, Sept 9	5	1	2	30
Level 1 Instructor	40, Sept 2	6	2		56
Totals	298 hours	147	52	58	1362

THANKS

We thank the TSC Race Committee Workers!

It takes dedicated members and volunteers to handle the many duties aboard the RC boat the "Jerry L"

Here Bill Brackett, Past-Commodore hoists racing pennants at the 2005 Dogwood Regatta



C.S.S.A. Representative: Karen Mellgren

Here we go! The Central States Sailing Association racing season starts right here at TSC!

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to call me at 321-7968. Remaining 2006 events are:

September

2-3 C.O.R.N. Regatta @NSA (A)

23-24 R.O.C.K. One-Design Regatta @ Kaw City OK (A)

October

21-22 Frostbite Regatta @OCBC (S)

November

4 CSSA Annual Meeting @ NSA (U)

5 **Hiram Douglas Regatta @TSC (A)**

Note: TSC EVENTS ARE IN BOLD

The CAST FOR KIDS FISHING DERY IS 9/16/06!

NROTC Class “Races” to Finish

Howard Haines

Wouldn't it be wonderful! If in planning a class sailing instructors could beseech a sprit of teaching and or of boating to make each class session as ideal as Saturday, August 26. On that day thirteen smart and enthusiastic OU Naval ROTC midshipmen and officer candidates finished their beginning sailing class. Wind was 5 to 10 mph, the temperature was on the warm side but not sweltering and small cumulus clouds were lofting about. With the able and equally enthusiastic help of ten 'BoatHousers, sailing skills were taught and learned smoothly and quickly. The session ended with a fun race around the buoys. An additional plus was the front page story about the class in the *Norman Transcript* the very next day.

Contrast this to the first three class sessions (evenings of August 14, 15 and 17) when thunderstorms prevented on-the-water work and or calm winds meant sailors were lucky to reach the innermost harbor buoy and usually had to scull or 'swim-tow' their boats. Thankfully, competent and imaginative instructors adapted the schedule to do ashore topics and otherwise make use of class time.



The class with some of the Saturday volunteers are, left to right, Lee Smith, myself, Glede Holman, Don Aurdou, David Banowsky, Paul Reynolds (seated) Vince Provenzano, Alan Hall, Arthur Harper, Kerry Knowles, Josh Teeman, Shannon Willis, Erica Rusco, Ian Hoffman, Jerry Lojka, Chritiana Kivlehen, Ray Short, Slyvia Stehman, Eric Hamilton, David Brooks and Te Woei Poon.

Photos by Les Cummings

A great BoatHouse crew instructed and mentored. *Operations* was shared by Mike Klatt and Kerry Knowles; *Business* by Chad Cox, Barbara Schindler and David Karoly. I was *Principal Instructor*. Other instructors and volunteers were: Andrew Brett, David Brooks, Les Cummings, Roger Elliott, David Hendricks, Glede Holman, Dave Karoly, Jerry Lojka, Te Woei Poon, Paul Reynolds, Lee Smith and Karen Thurston. BoatHouse organizations represented were TSC, Sooner Sail Club, Ship 5790, OU NROTC, and Flotilla 16-6. Any more, what with the low water and high temperatures, helping with a class has a new dimension – pure and simple physical stamina! Besides plaudits for delivering a fine class these folks need an extra dose of gratitude, and probably sore back medicine, for all their hard work.

More photos from the class are shown below.



Head of the Oklahoma Rowing Regatta September 30 and October 1

If you are interested in helping to operate one of the safety vessels at the 2006 Head of the Oklahoma regatta this year, please contact Walt Hedrick or Les Cummings. Experienced powerboat operators only.

The two day regatta will introduce “NIGHTSPRINTS” (not to be confused with “NIGHTSWEATS”) for the first time in the United States. On Saturday evening, September 30, OG&E will have lighting installed over the Oklahoma River to add a whole new dimension in rowing competition. This will be the first sanctioned “under the lights” night rowing competition in America!

Last year Walt Hedrick, Mike Kelly, and Les Cummings operated chase boats for the regatta and have been asked again to help. This year they will head up the chase-boat and safety-boat operations for the entire weekend. It's a great opportunity to join with the Chesapeake BoatHouse and the Head of the Oklahoma regatta committee in support of this exciting community event.

Les's experience using the Mercury outboard engines on the chase-boats last year gave rise to the fine donation of a new Mercury engine by Mercury Marine for the Lake Thunderbird BoatHouse. So you never know how things will work out.

If you have time, come out and watch some exciting racing on the Oklahoma River!
More information can be found at www.headoftheoklahoma.org.

Note: An 8 oared sweep racing shell (8+) is shown below, the sweeps are not quite in sync.



BoatHouse Volunteer Appreciation Day

Labor Day, Monday September 4, 2006

What a terrific day! Nearly 60 members, family, and friends of the TSC, Sea Scouts, and Jr. Team were on hand for the 5th annual BoatHouse Volunteer Appreciation Day festivities! The folks started arriving around noon and the kitchen was soon filled with all kinds of delicious foods and desserts. Roger Elliott, our chef for the day and BoatHouse host, had pre-cooked two large containers of delicious pulled-pork as well as coleslaw and baked beans. Then all the other wonderful dishes started to arrive; we have so many wonderful cooks affiliated with the BoatHouse. The grill was hot and ready to use too for those wanting to cook their own.

The weather was also perfect, with light cool winds shifting from the NE to SE just enough to wet the sailing appetites. It wasn't long before several sailboats were being moved to the shore and rigged to sail in the pleasantly cool and light-air conditions, including Sunfish, prams Widgeon, Lasers, and Brandon's new be Zuma.

Around 2PM, some 15 sailors had signed up for the traditional McDonald's Cup regatta. The regatta began years ago between Central Oklahoma Sailing Club (COSA) at Lake Hefner and TSC. The winning team would win the plastic McDonald's drink cup and the empty ice chest. Requiring them to fill it with liquid refreshments and bring back for the next year's race. Over the years this event went by the by until the TSC began to have the event as an intra-club event a few years ago. Names are put in a hat and a blind draw made for each team. The races are now sailed in the little Vanguard Prams (which is hilarious to watch). Each race is one-on-one and the team that wins the most races wins a new "glass" McDonalds Cup and no longer needs to worry about filling the ice chest for the following year. All in good fun and lots of harassment of the losers is doled out by the winning team.

We congratulate Team Captain, Karen Thurston and her terrific sailing team for winning this year's Cup. Following are some photos from this years event. We did take note that in two races, where husbands were racing against their wives; that the husbands, to keep peace in the family of course, graciously allowed the ladies to win. Their actions show just how caring and intelligent these two gentlemen are! No names will be mentioned of course.



Bill, Karen, Mike Tommy, Reggie, Les, Phil, and Chad
The 2006 McDonald's Cup Champions!

Ready to race!

Karen on plane!



Fabiola, Bill, Mike Tad, Karen Tim, Reggie, Tommy, Les, Glede, Kerry, Phil, Chad, and Alex...Brandon is not in the photo.

Glede is just too serious!

Phil sailing a submarine!



Evening sailing on beautiful Lake Thunderbird!

Lake Thunderbird Sunsets

I would like to encourage everyone to spend an evening at the lake. Whether it is sailing (the preferred activity!), getting your boat ready for the winter, or being at our next TSC meeting, take a moment to enjoy the view. Our lake is so lovely in the evening hours. The way the colors dance on the water will entertain the senses like nothing else can. Here are two shots of the many sunsets witnessed at the lake. May yours be just as lovely. Sail fast or slow but sail

Karen Thurston, TSC Past Commodore

Editor's Note: If you have favorite photos of T-bird email them to me, Les





Next Meeting!

Sat. Sep. 15, 6:00 PM at the BoatHouse

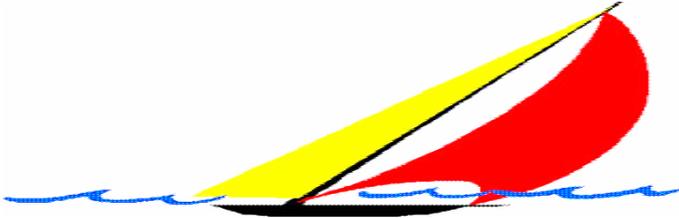
*Mike Kelly of OKC BoatWorks presents:
"Winterizing your boat!" or
"Will global warming do the job for you"*

**Bring your friends and a favorite
dish to share!**

2006 Executive Committee

Commodore:	Corbett Brown cb8197@sbc.com	749-1547
Vice-Comm:	Barbara Schindler bschin@cox.net	321-1354
Rear-Comm:	Jerry Lojka jlojka@aol.com	620-4498
Secretary:	Mary Anne Secrist m.secris@sbcglobal	329-3871
Treasurer:	David Craigie incipient@msn.com	741-2555
Fleet Capt.	Kerry Knowles kmellgren@cox.net	321-7968
M'sheet Ed.	Les Cummings les-cummings@omrf.ouhsc.edu	271-7188

**Aint' we got
a lot of fun?**



**Thunderbird Sailing Club
P.O. Box 1652
Norman, OK 73070-1086**