



The Doings

***Of the Dixie Sailing Club
April 2011***



Charlie French and crew on their way to a First Place win in the Flying Scot class at the 2011 Punchbowl Regatta.

Commodore's Corner

By Commodore Charlie French

Sunday Races – March 20th at 2:00 pm. Dixie had the first Sunday race in many years. It was a beautiful day, nice breeze, comfortable temperature and no boat traffic. Burl and Carol match raced against Wayne and Hobson. The boat that got the best start won. Both skippers got a win for that day. All had a great time on the water.

We will have two Sunday races in April, the 10th and 17th. This will give us time to complete Saturday chores and still be able to enjoy weekend club sailing. I know for a fact if you leave immediately from church in east Montgomery you can get a Flying Scot in the water for a 2:00 start. It takes team work but it can be done. Sunday races open an opportunity for people that have Saturday obligations.

Communications – Roster - Communications in Dixie Sailing Club are very important. There have been some miscommunications and if anyone has not received their club roster let me know. Since email is the method of sending out the notice for the Doings and other communications it is very important to keep your email address current with the secretary of the club. I know of some situations where members have not gotten notices and we need to work together to get these situations resolved.

Work Party – April 9th the Vice Commodore has a list of work party chores for the membership. Work party activities keep the club from raising dues and in good maintenance so we can enjoy our sailing activities at the club.

Punchbowl – Mark and Susan Cline put on a great Punchbowl Regatta. Thank you very much for all your hard work. The successful Punchbowl Regatta was the results of your efforts and coordination. It was very enjoyable to have sailors from many locations. Our traveling sailors brought other sailors to our club.

First Saturday – April 2nd Alan Mote for his first time chaired the races. He did an excellent job of running the races. All racers had an enjoyable time on a beautiful day. His races started on time, 10:15. A couple of folks had to hurry to get to the starting line. The covered dish dinner was larger than the race group. All the food was great as usual. All had a wonderful time.

See you on the water or at the club house ;-)

Charlie French

From the Vice

By Vice Commodore Royetta Link

Summer is upon on us!

We got the sailing season off to a great start with the Frostbite Chili Cook-off and BBQ from Jim & Nick's at the Punchbowl. It was great seeing everyone at the clubhouse!

Burl & Carol helped kick off the camping season by hosting a bonfire two different weekends. Folks enjoyed beautiful evenings around a warm fire toasting marshmallows and swapping sailing stories. To me.....Spring is the best time of year to pitch a tent because the cool nights keep the bugs away. And Dixie Sailing Club is the best place to camp on Lake Martin because

hot showers and flush toilets are just a few steps away from the campground!

Our next big event will be the May 7th Super Saturday Brunch & Potluck dinner. The club will provide homemade brunch treats starting at 10:30 AM then Happy Hour & dinner begin at 4:00 PM.

I would like to take a moment to thank several members for their help this past month. The Club received an email from Lake Martin Marine Police letting us know the lights were out on the pier in front of the clubhouse. Since the pier extends so far out into the lake, this was a safety issue. Many thanks to Keith Bennett for repairs to the electrical box that powered the pier. Ron Jenkie opened the men's latrine after the long winter. Tom Cooper picked up litter along the dirt road leading to the club. Hobson Riley set the rescue boat right after the drain plugs were left in it and the boat started filling with rainwater. Last but not least, Bob Corwin braved 25 mph winds out on the floating docks to secure Club boats during this week's wild storms.

Rear Commodore Comments – Part 1

From Rear Commodore Dick Cline

Happy April everyone! WOW hard to believe that when you read this the first full month of sailing for 2011 will have been completed, with both the kick off Frost Bite and the Punch Bowl completed! Time sure do fly when you're having fun! Check elsewhere in this issue for details on the Punch Bowl!

By the time you read this you will most likely have already checked your e-mail earlier in the week and found out about the change in plans for Sunday April 10th. But just to be sure, here is the update one more time. There will be no racing on that Sunday as there will be no rescue boat available. A cornerstone for the club racing program is safety. That means having an operational and reliable rescue boat. As of right now – March 31 is when I am writing this – the best way to describe the rescue boat is "almost useable most of the time." Seems there is a part in the throttle mechanism that works most of the time but not all. Clearly not good enough. So that boat will have gone to the shop by the time you read this, and the part to fix it should arrive in time for the boat to be back for races on Sunday April 17th.

So all that said – and with the new gas prices and knowing the reality of "I can go back and forth to the club once on a weekend but not both days" – make your plans now to be there on SATURDAY the 9th instead of Sunday the 10th. That way you can be part of the important Spring Work Party! I know there are details on that in this issue, so make sure you read it, and then get there on the 9th to finish up the tasks needed for the coming season.

Refresher comments – based on the first month's actions. Remember that for the new committee boat there is an on and off switch in the stern port locker that needs to be set before starting the engine! The key for it is bright red, ya can't mistake it! Remember that in the front port black dock box are the markers for the course and the race committee briefcase! That briefcase is kept there and contains all you need to run the races, including stamped and addressed envelopes to mail the results to scorekeeper Ron Dettwiler. And definitely remember

to take the drain plugs out of the rescue boat so it does not fill with water during the rains that go thru the area.

Final comment – April is that special month that has 5 Saturdays! So on April 30th Long Distance Race #1 will be held. There will be a skippers meeting at the dock at 10 to determine the course for the day, and who will be the volunteer score keeper – NO race committee for that one, it's up to those there to run the fun! See ya all there this Sat the 9th to get the final touches on club needs!

Rear Commodore Comments - Part 2

By Dick Cline

This year to help members do their race committee duty a special 7 page pamphlet was created, 2011 DSC Race Duty Guidelines, with a hard copy for each regular member. They were handed out to members at the Commodore's Banquet and since then have been in the clubhouse for members to pick up. One copy was printed for each member. Last weekend a visit to the clubhouse showed a large stack of the guides still there. So, if you have not yet got your copy, PLEASE stop by the clubhouse and get one. They are very helpful in doing your race duty this year.

There are a couple of key items that we all need to keep in mind over the coming months of fun sailing at the lake. You may have already seen these in an e-mail but here is a second shot at them in case you missed that one.

FIRST - A LOOK AT SAFETY:

The cornerstone of the DSC sailing program, be it racing or cruising, is safety. This year we will use one and only one criteria to determine if there will be racing on any given weekend – safety. And safety is impacted by two factors – (1) the club having the club boats needed to hold the event, meaning BOTH a working rescue boat and committee boat, and (2) special weather events.

Let's look at those two items – club boats first. I know it is hard to believe, but really, we have had racers fall off their boats, not wearing any PFD, and need some help. Even on a day with light winds! So that means have a working rescue boat every time. No club rescue boat, no racing. We cannot afford to lose any member. No matter how nice the weather when something happens, moving and chasing down a problem with the committee boat does not cut it.

Now then – weather. If it is going to rain on race day that DOES NOT cancel the event! If it is going to be windy on race day, that DOES NOT cancel the event! If on Friday before Saturday races the forecast is for tornados and severe weather the next day (like it is for later today as I type this) – yes I will send an e-mail out Friday afternoon letting all know the change for race day. Short of that though, there will be NO cancelations for weather.

But understand, this year, racing will NEVER be canceled before race day due to not knowing how many will be there to race! You just go ahead and go – and plan on racing when you get there! Which leads to the second point of importance!

SECOND - A LOOK AT PARTICIPATION/COMMUNICATION

There are two parts to this second and very important racing point – communication which leads to participation. I'll be blunt on this – there is NO one perfect way to communicate with every single regular member. But, this is a club that has every member but one with a current e-mail address. Plus a club web site to pass along information.

There is no sugar-coated way to say this – so – it is the member that needs to check his e-mail and/or the DSC web site, at least once a week, to insure they have the latest insight into what will be happening at the club. This is a fluid world and things happen. I have made a commitment to sending a status note to everyone on Monday each week. The Catalina 22 fleet has established a Google Group to coordinate their members' actions. The other fleets could consider forming a group too. Last week one club member did not get the word on the change in start time, but a number of folks apparently did as they were there to race. Bottom line – members just need to get used to communicating using the technology the club uses to insure they are up to date on what is happening. There is nothing more pervasive and timely than an e-mail to all, presuming that folks do check theirs.

But the second part of this important point is PARTICIPATION!! Credit where credit is due, Randall Haire got this one started! He made a comment about not going because he did not want to spend the money on gas to get there and find there were not three there to hold a race. OK, at this point everyone go get their roster out, look on page 13, section 4 the first sentence! Guess what – I have been talking today with all the senior people at United States Sailing Association that handles the Portsmouth Handicap system – and that first sentence is WRONG!! The correct wording should say "any time two or more dissimilar boats participate..."!! (Clearly if both boats are the same, there is no handicap concern). Bottom line on participation – if there are two boats there, it's race time! Anything more than that, the more the merrier! For what it's worth, I DO know how the confusion came about and if you want to know, drop me a line.

Back to SAFETY – the club rescue boat is not at the lake. It's in the shop to get a throttle issue fixed. It will NOT be done by this coming weekend, so NO races on Sunday the 10th. It should be back and ready to use for races on Sunday the 17th, so plan accordingly. Hey – your one trip to the lake this coming weekend can now be on Saturday the 9th, to help out in the Spring Work Party.

Remember – SAFETY, COMMUNICATION, & PARTICIPATION!! The cornerstones of the sailing program for 2011!

2011 Punchbowl Wrap-up

From Mark Cline – Punchbowl Regatta Chairman

I am writing this a week after the 2011 Punchbowl Regatta, and I think I have finally decompressed from all of it. Participating in a regatta is a lot more fun than running a regatta,

but overall I think it was a great success. We had everything you could expect from a regatta. We had out of town racers, high winds, low winds, rain, thunderstorms, tornado warnings, collisions, food and fun.

The forecast had been getting progressively worse as the week wore on, but that didn't stop 12 out of town racers from 6 different clubs, plus 11 DSC members from showing up and registering to race in the regatta. Gary Allen and family drove down from Indiana to participate.

Friday was a beautiful day with many showing up Friday afternoon and evening. Ron Jenkie and Ron Dettwiler headed up the welcome party showing guests where to park their boats, providing directions to local points of interest and cooking brats and dogs for all who needed some evening nourishment.

Saturday started out cloudy and cool with light winds. By the time we hit the course after registration and skippers meeting, it was blowing 15 with gusts to 20. CRO Michael Papp and the DSC race committee had their work cut out for them because the forecast was sketchy with thunderstorms predicted. They started the Flying Scot fleet first, then the Catalina 22 Gold and finally the Catalina 22 Silver. The first race was scheduled to be three laps, which was great with 15+ winds. However, after the first lap, the wind died down to 8, so the first race took about 1 hour 30 minutes to complete. The racing was close and competitive with two Catalina 22 Gold racers having to leave the course after a collision.

While waiting for the second race, the rain came in so did the wind and weather. After starting the second race, the area came under a severe thunderstorm warning, and a number of strong cells were heading towards the club and lake, so the race committee cancelled the remaining Saturday races. While the thunderstorms missed the club, we could hear the tornado warning sirens, and we discovered later that the storm passed just north of us, and had baseball sized hail and high winds.

Since we were off the course, happy hour started around 3:30 and was enjoyed by many of the racers. There were quite a few tall tales told and a few racers were mending fences and licking wounds from events from the first race. By the time dinner was served, all was forgiven and everyone was ready to eat. The clubhouse was full with 60+ guests enjoying Jim 'n Nicks BBQ. T-shirts and West Marine gift cards were given away as raffle ticket prizes.

Sunday's forecast was not any better. With early morning rain and dark ominous looking clouds, a few guests decided to head home early, but a little bit of rain would not stop our race committee from trying to run a couple of races. With winds blowing 8 out of the west, the race committee was able to get two, two lap races run before the next wave of thunderstorms rolled over the club.

The boats were put up, the points were totaled and the results were announced.

Flying Scot

1. Charlie French
2. Allen Mote
3. Royetta Link

Catalina 22 Gold

1. Bill Robertson
2. Craig Kilch
3. Winn Story

Catalina 22 Silver

1. Timothy Cent
2. Mark Cline
3. Don Waterhouse

Thanks to everyone who participated and helped run the 2011 Punchbowl Regatta. I know that going to another club's regatta is a big commitment in both time and money. Knowing that it may get rained out and still hitting the road and attending means a lot to DSC.

The final results are posted below:

Punchbowl 2011 Results

Race Results						
Name	Boat	Sail #	R1	R2	R3	PTS
French	FS	4023	1	1	1	3
Mote	FS	3239	DNS	2	2	9
Link	FS	3113	DNS	3	3	11
Murphy	FS	3268	DNS	DNS	DNS	15
Robertson	C22G	569	2	2	1	5
Kilch	C22G	275	4	1	2	7
Story	C22G	328	1	DNS	DNS	17
Cellamarie	C22G	6175	3	DNS	DNS	19
Griffin	C22G	8	5	DNS	DNS	21
Richardson	C22G	242	DNF	DNS	DNS	24
Bennett	C22G	67	DNF	DNS	DNS	24
Cent	C22S	1662	1	2	3	6
Cline, M	C22S	165	8	1	1	10
Waterhouse	C22S	2351	2	6	2	10
Allen	C22S	15703	4	7	4	15
Noble	C22S	4631	5	3	7	15
North	C22S	11347	7	4	5	16
Dettwiler	C22S	8491	9	5	6	20
Jenkie	C22S	7452	3	DNS	DNS	24
Claybrook	C22S	548	6	DNS	DNS	32

Race Results						
Name	Boat	Sail #	R1	R2	R3	PTS
Schrupp	C22S	9173	10	DNS	DNS	33
Johnson	C22S	11618	DNF	DNS	DNS	39
Cline, D	C22S	221	DNS	DNS	DNS	39

The Little Things!
Captain Ron Jenkie

Sometimes it is the little things in life that mean the most. Well, in the midst of all the hustle and bustle, planning and scheduling, and organization of the Punchbowl Regatta, something very simple happened. Thanks to Burl Murphy who relocated the campgrounds big steel fire pit to the upper parking lot/camping area **An Event** happened. For two nights of the regatta weekend all the campers, RV'rs, and even several cabin folk met in front of Burl's RV for a blazing bonfire (in the steel fire pit of course). Many brought their own lawn chairs; others just came and plopped down. What happens at a campfire is mesmerizing. You sit, bundle up, stare, and listen to the most wonderful stories. And that happened. We talked into the night, enjoying the stars, big sky, friends and crackle of the fire. We talked about sailing, past events, present happenings, and future desires.

All in all, it was a relaxing way to spend the end of a busy day. There is something about a fire. Traditions are important to us at DSC. I hope that this tradition continues. Do plan to be there for the **Next Event**.

WANTED

One or two crew for C22 racing, once a month! NO prior experience required, JUST the desire to have fun racing! I intend to race twice each month, first Saturday hopefully with crew, and then one other Saturday single handing. If you have any desire to learn more about racing and crewing on a C22 please let me know, I'd love to find someone that can be there 1st Sat of the coming months. Call me at the number in the roster or drop me an e-mail, either will work.

Dick Cline
C22 #221, 334-301-4382

WANTED

Do you know if anyone has a 420 sailboat? Jane Cameron will compete in Greece this summer in Special Olympics using a 420. Her boat is a catamaran. It would help if she could get more experience.

Contact: ariddle@juno.com

FOR SALE

Hull #1341 Freedom, formerly known as "Cattitude"
2 sets of sails
110 - Gus in Excellent Condition
Main - Gus in Excellent Condition
150 - Gus in Good to Fair Condition
VC Poxy bottom job, and Topside paint by Dennis Slayton in 2007 or 2008
Second set of sails still OK for cruising
Custom canvas boat cover from Catalina Direct
Trailer
2000 4.0 Mercury Outboard in Good Condition
Great boat, needs new skipper with time to take her racing.
\$6500
Located at: Browns Creek Marina, Lake Guntersville, Guntersville, AL
Contact: Roy Hutcheson, rahutcheson@hotmail.com, 256 468 1002

FOR SALE

Com-Pac 23
9 hp outboard
Trailer – needs new tires (4 on order at the moment)
Mooring – with parts available to set a new mooring
New tiller handle (currently not installed)
Needs some fiberglass work on top of the cabin.
Price negotiable to allow the right person the ability to have a really nice boat.

Contact: Dave Hilgendorf, daveh@inline.com<<mailto:daveh@inline.com>>
Phone: (h) 205-853-0792, (c) 205-903-0874

Additional Punchbowl Regatta Pictures
Courtesy of Bonnie Sanders



Upcoming Events and Responsibilities

April 2011

- Sat 9 **Work party**
- Tues 12 **Tuesday Fun Sail – 9:30**
- Sun 17 **Club Racing**
RC Chair: Corwin
RC Assist: Nixon, Morgan, Fernandez
- Tue 26 **Tuesday Fun Sail – 9:30**
- Sat 30 **Long Distance Race #1**

May 2011

- Sat 7 **Super Saturday Racing**
RC Chair: Barnett
RC Assist: Moeller, McDaniel
Brunch Kitchen Duty: G. Randolph
Dinner Kitchen Duty: Davie, Fernandez, Boggan
- Tue 10 **Tuesday Fun Sail – 9:30**
- Sat 14 **Club Racing**
RC Chair: Corwin
RC Assist: Perry, Carden
- Tues 22 **Tuesday Fun Sail – 9:30**
- Sat 28 **McFadden Cup Regatta**
Memorial Day Weekend – potluck dinner/cookout
RC Chair: J. Simons
RC Assist: Floyd, Link
Kitchen Duty: Smilie, W. Smith, Richardson