



The Doings

Of the Dixie Sailing Club

February 2013

The Commodore's Report

As I sit here writing my report, I am a couple of days away from heading down to Cocoa Florida to race the first regatta of the year. It's hard to believe that the last racing I did at the club was back in July and the last racing for the year was in September at Gone with the Wind, but I know I am not alone. A majority of us have kept ourselves busy trying to get the new club up and running. It's amazing to think that 6 months ago you couldn't drive on the property, and now we have a boat yard full of boats, roads on the property and members all around. We still have a long way to go, but things are really progressing nicely. We are still working on the application, which means we probably won't start putting in fixed docks until November followed by the pouring the ramp January 2014. But that is not stopping from working on other areas around the club including the camping areas and hoist.

I hope everyone has seen the various drawings and plans for the proposed facilities. Because we are coming up with 5+ year plan, we are trying to be as methodical as possible and get input from as many people as possible, which is why it is taking a bit longer to complete. We really want your feedback, so if you have an idea or suggestion, please let us know.

In between all the work parties, we do plan on having sailing and social events. I hope you will take the time to come out and join us. I have been sailing in our new area a few times and it's quite amazing; wide open, quiet and very little boat traffic. We will be posting the schedule soon on the website and Ron Dettwiler is working on the new roster, which will have the 2013 schedule included.

Thanks again for all your hard work and I hope to see you on the water!

Mark Cline
Commodore

The Vice Commodore's Report

February 16th Work Party Report: We had a very successful work party this last Saturday. 25 people showed up ready to dig in cleaning up the club woods areas adjacent to the road. Those who attended were as follows:

Tom Weathers
Wayne Carroll
Randall Haire
Charlie French
Dick Cline
Mark Cline
Ron Jenkie
Cynthia Ford
Bill Hoster
Merry Hardy and family (sister & Bro in law)
Jim Simons
Keith Bennett
Roger Smith
Jonathon Stuart and family(Christy, Grace, Samantha, & Judson)
John Barnett
Mickey Richardson
Gray Biggs and fiancé(soon to be members)

We thank all of the above for their hard work and effort. The things we accomplished were as follows:

Clearing the roadside from the ramp to the boatyard of small and large limbs and debris and piling it up along roadside. Trash pickup. Merry Hardy brought her Bobcat with a front end loader and she filled in the 40' open well near the boatyard, and then put fill dirt in the wet pooling spots on the road near the storage shed. Bill and Keith applied a rub rail on the public launch ramp dock. Wayne Carroll, Jim Simons, Randal Haire and Mark Cline spent think tank time planning the RV camping area, the primitive camping area and the boat hoist area. All these areas are planned to be developed in this next year if possible. We also did some scoping and planning of the road to the clubhouse point area. Jonathon Stuart brought his 6" wood chipper driven by his tractor motor and many volunteered to help drag limbs to feed them into the chipper. Thanks to the chain saw work by Roger Smith, Charlie French and John Barnett we felled trees and cut some downed trees and limbs into manageable size. The entire project was a total group effort. We took a break at around 12:30 and enjoyed socialization and a hot dog lunch. Those Nathan's dogs tasted wonderful after a hard mornings work. Thanks to all who participated.

Next Work Party: is scheduled for **Saturday, March 16th 9:00.** One of the things we realized trying to feed the chipper is that we needed more than one to make significant progress in destroying the limb piles into chips. Next work party we hope to have at least 2 chippers in action to make more headway. If we can, we may try to begin work on the hoist area. Again, bring your chain saws and work gloves. We may even have a rerun of those wonderful Nathan's hot dogs.

The Rear Commodore's Report

Get Ready Now!!

Rear Commodore Dick Cline

It is time folks – time to get ready for the coming sailing season! It will be here in just a few weeks, and now is the time to get the boat ready so you can enjoy the season. This will be a different kind of sailing season for the club, due to the fact we are still in the process of getting the new location fully set for launching and retrieving our boats. But there will be both racing and cruising events this coming year.

There has long been a tradition at DSC that the first Saturday of each month is both a race day and pot luck dinner day. That tradition continues in 2013, starting the first Saturday of April, the 6th. A few details on how that will work in the coming year. First off, there will be NO SCHEDULED racing on Sunday this year. That is an open day all year long. So, now back to the Saturday race day each month. The first big change for this year is there will be no race committee or committee boat. There is no place to keep that boat in the water this year, until the ramp and docks get done. So that leaves the rescue boat, small enough to be able to be tied to either a tree or the short floating docks at the club ramp area, which is what will be used.

This year on race day there will be a Race Director and Assistant. The two of them will use the rescue boat to go set the race marks for that day of racing. Racers will check in with them on the water, to determine the course for the days racing. Races will start at 11 and there will be three of them, run back to back. Racers will keep their own times for each race!! The race data at the end of the day for each will be given to that days Race Director who will send them to the DSC Race Results person – Ron Dettwiler again this year.

That is how racing will be handled on the first Saturday each month starting in April this year. The roster will show the two people assigned each first Saturday to hand the Race Director and Assistant tasks. That is NOT to say there will be no other racing during the year!! More on that in the next paragraph.

Second Saturday of each month, starting in April, will be a work party event. Sail and fun the first week, work the second week. Then there are weekends 3, 4 and sometime 5 to consider. Weekend 3 is listed in the roster as a “sailing event” – and that will basically be whatever YOU the club sailors make it, from honor racing, to cruising, to just tuning and testing on the water with other boats. But, there will be no formal tasking of club members to do any kind of race duty other than first Saturday of each month. Weekends 4 and 5 will be a mix of events – to be determined over the coming months. Most often weekend 4 will be the work party to continue/finish the tasks started on the second weekend. There are just an unlimited number of things all members can do to make this a year of great progress on the land while we work getting the permits for the water portion of the club. And at this point, the goal is to have every month BOTH at least one fun race weekend, one sailing of some kind weekend, and a couple of productive work party weekends.

March is just around the corner, and it will be an exciting and fun filled month. On Saturday March 2nd will be the Commodore's Banquet you will read about in this issue. Saturday March 9th – the chart says there will be enough water back in the lake to launch our boats! No telling what the weather will be, but, on that day the club will have “kick off the season” sailing, just a fun time of learning the tricks of launching and retrieving our boats from the public ramp, and getting the kinks out of the boat and body as we get ready for the April full calendar! March 16th is the work party for the month, and then the final two Saturdays of the month will be on the 23rd another go have fun sail of checking out the new location, boat, and body – LOL, followed by the final work party for March on the 30th.

And for those of you saying “how is it possible to have any pot luck dinner?” – well the 40 hot dogs grilled and eaten at the work party last weekend showed that where there are hungry sailors a way to get food will be found. We already have on site a nice little gas grill to use, and trust me, come April 6th after sailing there will be a way to have a pot luck! So just start making your plans for the coming season – it will be great!

Board Changes

Royetta Link is no longer on the board. We have asked Jim Simons to take over her position on the board this year and he accepted. Your current board is as follows:

Mark Cline – Commodore
Ron Jenkie – Vice Commodore
Dick Cline – Rear Commodore (ex-officio)
Roger Smith – Treasurer
Ron Dettwiler – Secretary
Keith Bennett
Wayne Carroll
Randall Haire
Merry Hardy
Jim Simons

New Members

Banks Farris has rejoined the club. Banks has been away for a couple of years, but is ready to get back into sailing and involved with the club. He currently has an MC Scow and is looking for some tutoring.

DSC Pride

By Dick Cline

I send the following comments in as just a club member, who has been watching the actions over the past few months, as we move into our new location. And I have to tell you I am proud to say I am a member of DSC and proud of the actions taken by the members. In talking to Dave Stein, an original founding member of DSC in 1960, last week, he commented on the fact that “pride of ownership really happens when you start something new and work to build it” and that he felt that in the year to come DSC members would indeed feel that. From what I have seen recently, I think he is right, and it has already started.

For example – take Grey Biggs and his fiancée Beth Marra. I’m sure right now you are saying “who?” Well Grey is from Gadsden AL and Beth lives in Montgomery, and Grey is bringing his Catalina 22 down and going to join DSC in the coming months. But they were both so excited about the club that they came for the last work party and both of them worked hard for 6 hours clearing the land “for our new club”. They were looking forward to turning in their application in the coming weeks.

That is just one of many – Jim Simons work on the FERC application, with help from John Barnett, Wayne Carroll, ...and on and on, but believe me they have made a major contribution to the future of the club. Merry Hardy gets a super trophy for being an unmatched bobcat driver who just works and works and works. Ron Jenkie has about pitched a tent at the site he is there working so much, and Saturday even with his arm in a sling after surgery, Frank Savage was there working on how to lay out the camping area. Charlie French was there wearing his “war paint” – the small streak of blood down his right cheek from a limb scratch, Tom Weathers had several “war paint” streaks from the same thing. Ron Jenkies daughter Christy and his grand kids came and cooked 40 hot dogs for lunch, after doing several hours of feeding the chipper! It goes on and on, and these are just a few of the members I could mention. And I for one am proud of all they are doing, and am trying hard to also do my part!

The old expression I have always heard is 90% of the work in an organization is done by 10% of the membership – and I can tell you for right now that does NOT apply to DSC where 100% of the work is being done by the members, and based on the work parties so far, that has been almost 50% of the members. In addition, the club has been contacted by the Catalina 22 fleets in several other southern states volunteering to come for a weekend to help, whenever we want, because of all the good times they had at DSC in the past. IF you have been there already, I am sure you know how great the club future is, and are taking pride in your work to attain it. If you have yet to come, DO NOT miss this rare opportunity to be able to say you were there when it was built and helped build it – Dave Stein from 60+ years ago still today smiles and remembers his efforts back then to build DSC. This is your time, now. Take pride in your club and come share the joy of moving into the new location.

Commodore’s Dinner

Saturday March 2nd we will be holding our 2013 Commodores Dinner celebration. It will be at Coaches Corner restaurant in downtown Wetumpka, AL. The address is 203 Orlene Street, Wetumpka. You will see it on the right before you round the curve. The event will begin at 6:00 with Happy Hour, followed at 6:30 for dinner, town hall information exchange and presentations.

The menu is as follows:

Beef Tips in gravy over rice
Chicken Chunks
Squash casserole
Green beans
Baked potato
Roll
Dessert
Tea or water

Cost: \$21.00. This includes the \$17.00 dinner, \$2.00 tip, and \$2.00 tax.

In order to ensure a dinner plate for you and/or guest, I will need you to respond to this RSVP as soon as possible. The last day to place an order is Wednesday, February 27th. Feel free to email me at rjenkie@gmail.com or phone at 334-514-4442 home or 334-514-4442 cell. Hope to hear from you soon.

Ron Jenkie
Vice Commodore, DSC

Upcoming Events and Activities

March 2, 2013 – Commodore's Dinner

March 9, 2013 – Club Sailing Activity

March 16, 2013 – Work Party

March 23, 2013 – Club Sailing Activity

March 30, 2013 – Work Party

