



# *The Doings*

## *Of the Dixie Sailing Club*

### *May 2014*

#### **Commodore's Corner** *By Commodore Mark Cline*

Well, they say time flies when you are having fun and while not all of it has been fun, time has sure flown since my last article. It seems like just yesterday we were ordering materials for building the first dock and now it's almost May and we have built two docks, put in a ramp, cleaned up the property, had a very successful fundraiser and managed to get in a couple of weekends of sailing and racing. I have opted to use this down time to finally finish my C25 project, so it seems like the work parties have just continued for me. However there is light at the end of the tunnel and I plan on bringing it up in early May. I think it's now a race between Roger and me to see who will splash and sail their C25 first!

We have accomplished a lot since getting our permit and we keep making progress towards getting more infrastructures built this year. Jim is cracking the whip keeping us moving on the East Dock project. He is currently organizing small work parties during the week to rehab the floating docks to prepare for the pilings and connections that will be completed by early summer. This will give us plenty of dock space for launching for Saturday morning races as well as temporary tie-up space for all the big boats that members will be adding to the club this year.

We have also had a civic project going on at the club. Tyler Anderson approached the board earlier this year about putting in the cement base and mount for the club's flag pole for his Eagle Scout project. The location is at the point of picnic/pavilion area east of the ramp on the south side of the road. Since we have cleared the area, not only will boaters be able to see the flag pole from the water, members and guests will have a great area to picnic and watch the sailing. The pole is up, dedicated, and operational as of the third of May.

And the rumors are true. Due to the success of the fundraiser, we are working on our first permanent restrooms for the club. We are planning on building a relatively small, simple standalone building that has a couple of toilet rooms near the picnic/pavilion/swimming area. We are in the preliminary planning and permitting stage right now. While it's too early to predict completion, we are hoping for late summer.

We have a lot of other activities scheduled for this summer and fall; long-distance race with Stillwaters Yacht Club in May, Intro to Sailing in June and Last Splash Regatta in October. Throw in some work parties, cruising activities and club racing, and you have a fun-filled, action-packed DSC calendar. Check the club's website for all the events.

I hope to see you on the water!

Mark

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## **From the Vice Commodore's Loft**

*By Vice Commodore Ron Jenkie*

Much has been accomplished at DSC this spring. Not only have we completed our boat ramp project, but we also have worked hard at building our initial dock infrastructure. After several winter work parties constructing our East and West fixed dock structures, we raised and attached the walkway ramps that were attached to the old keelboat docks. Presently we are working at rehabilitating the old ramp docks so they can withstand the new "L" shaped structure we are planning. After rehabbing our old docks, our next task will be to put everything in place and install spud poles that will keep docks in position summer and winter. Much help is needed and the more assist we get the faster the projects go.

Also under way is planning for our first "real" restrooms at DSC. A planning committee has been formed, tasks divided up and projects are already underway. Being accomplished as I write this article, an engineer has been hired to do a perc test, draw up plans, and submit them to proper authorities so we can be permitted to start building this structure. It will include a structure, with septic tank and drain field. Plans are for a building with two separate toilet rooms, with toilet and sink in each. Outside the structure we will have a large pots and pans sink, and an outside showerhead for those wanting to rinse off after sailing. This facility is going to be constructed by club members so be on alert for notice of work parties.

With the assist of Tyler Anderson, a local Boy Scout who took on the task as his Eagle Scout Project, we now have a DSC flagpole out on the point for all to see and enjoy. With some club guidance, Tyler completed the cemented in flagpole base to be used with the flag pole sections from the old club. This past week we reassembled and raised the pole. On Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, we had a formal ceremony with Tyler raising the first flag up the pole. Several members attended and afterwards we had refreshments and snacks out on the point. We had a good time socializing and conversing about sailing, club plans and general BS with those in attendance.

Stay tuned for our next big event at the club, our Introduction To Sailing course. This will be for young and old in our community and is a great new-member recruiting tool we have used for many years. It is planned for Saturday, July 19<sup>th</sup>. We will need many volunteers to pull this event off. Merry Hardy is in charge and will be sending out notices and updates about this event.

Ron

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## **Rear Commodore Comments**

*From Rear Commodore Merry Hardy*

### **Intro to Sailing**

This year the DSC's Introduction to Sailing will be held on July 19<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 AM until 4:00 PM. As always this is our opportunity to show the general public who we are and what we're all about. Almost every year the club has gained 1 or 2 new members as a result of

the ITS. And to put on this event we need existing club members to help with various activities throughout the day.

I am the overall organizer for this event and myself and other "helpers" have identified several areas where we could use some assistance. We need;

- Dock helpers to catch and launch the boats the guests are learning to sail
- A Dock Master to serve as an extra pair of eyes and hands
- Chase boat operator to assist the guests and to put out marks for them to sail to
- One or two people to help with the food and clean up afterwards
- Several people to help with guest check-in and registration
- Club members willing to take our guests for a short sail
- Someone to walk small groups around our grounds to show them our camping facilities, boat lift, boat yard, main ramp, etc.

We also need several small sailboats (Sunfish, Laser, etc.) for our guests to practice sailing on (within our cove)

If you think you'd like to help, please contact me at [merryc@charter.net](mailto:merryc@charter.net) or call me at (256) 794-8075 (Cell). Thanks!

Merry

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### **My \$0.02 Worth – The Treasurer**

*From the Treasurer Roger Smith*

#### **Dixie Sailing Club Reconciliation Summary**

##### **10100 – Cash in Bank – Primary Checking, Period Ending 03/31/2014**

Beginning Balance	7,352.89
Total Cleared Transactions	18,450.19
Cleared Balance	<u>25,803.08</u>
Total Uncleared Transactions	-8,377.04
Register Balance as of 03/31/2014	<u>17,426.04</u>
Total New Transactions	-1,710.45
Ending Balance	<u>15,715.59</u>

##### **10200 – Money Market Account/Compass, Period Ending 03/31/2014**

Beginning Balance	6,369.29
Total Cleared Transactions	0.49
Cleared Balance	<u>6,369.78</u>

Total Uncleared Transactions	0.00
Register Balance as of 03/31/2014	<u>6,369.78</u>
Total New Transactions	0.00
Ending Balance	<u>6,369.78</u>

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**Club Site Security**

*From the Secretary Ron Dettwiler*

I know most of you are probably aware that we've had some security issues at our new site. Last fall we had two outboards stolen off two boats. Both motors were secured with padlocks and/or chains. And, in March, a Tallapoosa Sheriff Deputy found our gate wide open at 11:30 PM with no one in the boatyard.

Sometime in the future we hope to have motion-sensing cameras and lights but for now, our gate and the Sheriff Department's nightly rounds are the extent of our site security.

Please ensure you lock the gate whenever you're at the club and you won't be able to see the gate. In other words, if you're working in the boatyard, it's okay to leave the gate open and unlocked. But if you decide to head towards the ramp or campsites, and there is no one else in the boatyard, lock the gate. Or if you're leaving the club and everyone else is down at the docks, lock the gate. And when you lock the padlock, please ensure you spin the dials. On two separate occasions recently, a member arrived at the club to find the gate closed and locked but the combination was already dialed in. All they had to do was pull on the padlock and it opened.

Here are a couple numbers you may want to put in your phone:

Alexander City Police – 256-397-1023

Sheriff Department Tallapoosa County – 256-825-4264

Thanks for your help on this very important matter. Together we can do the best with what we have!

Ron

Lock the gate & spin the dial! Lock the gate & spin the dial! Lock the gate & spin the dial!  
 Lock the gate & spin the dial! Lock the gate & spin the dial! Lock the gate & spin the dial!

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**\$10,000 Drawdown**

*By Mark Cline*

When you have a small group of motivated people with big dreams and limited funds sometimes you have to think outside the box. Beth Biggs and Merry Hardy had the crazy idea that the club should hold a fundraiser to inject some much needed capital into the

coffers and build awareness about the club. They proposed holding a \$10,000 drawdown fundraiser. They met with Roger Holiday and convinced Russell Lands to donate the Stables for our event. Merry and Beth formed a committee with Ron Dettwiler (the ticket master), Jennifer Bennett (the queen of the silent auction) and me. Along the way many club members and family members helped with different aspects of the event. Many even purchased tickets and donated items for the silent auction.

Leslie Bailey was the event emcee, and she did a wonderful job controlling the flow and helping announce ticket numbers throughout the evening. While waiting for numbers to be called, karaoke was the entertainment of choice. Of the 260 plus tickets sold we had over 160 people attend the fund raiser. The catering was provided by Willow Point and Merry Hardy's MC Scow was used as one of the main serving areas for the event. Between her boat, nautical themed decorations and competing sailing slideshows, the place was decorated to the "nines" and there was no question DSC was in the house!

The silent auction corner was a very popular area with over 40 items from 31 vendors and individuals. From clothes to electronics to decorations, there was something for everyone. The most memorable and touching item from the night was when Jane Cameron's older brother surprised her by showing up to the event and made sure he was the highest bidder for her hand-made sailing quilt.

As the evening went on, tickets were called, items were auctioned and everyone who attended had a great time. The last five ticket holders agreed to split the \$10,000. They were, John Barnett (2 tickets), Darryl Riggs, Jonathan Stuart and Vicki Buttram.

Here is how the event turned out.

Ticket Sales	\$24,978.00
Silent Auction Sales	\$4,164.25
Bar Sales	\$669.00
<b>Total Sales</b>	<b>\$29,811.25</b>
Prize Money	\$10,000.00
All Other Expenses	\$5,760.78
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$15,760.78</b>
<b>Total Profit</b>	<b>\$14,050.47</b>

In the end I think the event more than met all of its objectives. We had a great turnout, made some new friends, introduced people to the club, generated some funds and had a great time in the process. Thanks again to everyone that helped and attended.

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### **Notes from the Harbor – May 2014**

*By Harbormaster Jim Simons*

Well, as you know the fixed docks at the ramp are complete. Now, we are working on modifying the main and side floats so they can be connected together and then set pilings to moor the floats in place at all lake stages. The walkways will roll on the main floats, as

the floats rise and fall on the pilings. The float we installed over on the county ramp will be moved back to our slough in a few days. The pilings for the east floats will be set this May. The floats and pilings for the west float will be done next May, as replacing the west walkway will be a significant expense. Until next spring, we'll leave the west walkway and float as it is, moored by a chain and a line ashore.

Some of you are considering establishing moorings. The old club location had a lot of moorings, and it was a larger area than the current slough. This slough is also where our main docks are located. So, we will need to carefully locate each mooring, so we can minimize the inconvenience to the other members. For example, everyone would like to have a mooring very close to the dock. However, any moorings close to the docks would restrict maneuvering in the area, and we are using sail boats. So, we'll need to maintain a clear area around the docks. The small Jon boat is a reasonable dinghy. When I used the Jon boat at the old location, I had a trolling motor to get out to my mooring, which was a long way from the dock. So, if you are interested in a mooring, get with me and we'll figure out a good location.

In the next couple of weeks, we will establish two No Wake buoys at the mouth of the slough, on either side of the channel. Hopefully, this will appear to be a "gate" to the slough, and perhaps discourage fishermen from creating wakes in the slough. If you see one of these cowboys creating a wake, don't hesitate to hail, and remind them of the No Wake area. I would imagine that after speeding over the open water, it's fun to slalom through our slough, as they have for years. You might also take photos, or videos. In fact, just appearing to take photos might be an effective deterrent.

Jim

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### **The Plan for a Toilet Building** *From the Infrastructure Engineer Jim Simons*

We've all recognized the necessity for a permanent toilet facility, which will allow us to have a roomier, cleaner, cheaper alternative to the porta-potties. In order to develop the scope for the facility, the Vice Commodore convened a *charrette* using Mark Cline, Ron Jenkie, Keith Bennett, and Grey Biggs, as members and Jim Simons acting as the facilitator.

After a couple of hours, we had settled on a configuration, and other details. Briefly, it will be a 6 x 12 ft stick-built building on a slab, located in the vicinity of the flagpole. The building corners are staked and flagged. The slab will be extended in back of the building to allow for a large sink and outside shower. Hot water will not be available at this time, but can be a later upgrade. The building will be roughed-in for electrical service, when that is available. Water will be gravity-feed from an elevated water tank, which is filled with lake water. Merry has found a couple of 250 g tanks; one is on the ground by the Lift. There will be two 6 x 6 unisex toilet rooms with water closets [toilets] and sinks. One room will be ADA-compliant. The outside sink is for rinsing pots, etc. The septic field will be within 30 ft of the toilet building in a relatively flat area. The septic field will have adequate clearance from the 490 shoreline.

The toilet building and septic field are only designed to handle normal club usage. That is, anytime we have an event with additional visitors on site, porta-potties will need to be

brought back for the event. This new toilet building is sited to be independent from the future clubhouse and remain operational after the clubhouse is constructed.

The first step is to have an engineer perform a perc (percolation) test and submit the results, so the Tallapoosa County Public Health Department can issue a permit for the septic tank and field. Then, we will contract the septic system, run the drain lines to the area of the slab, obtain the building permit, pour the slab, and construct the building. We will use DSC labor [you] as much as possible for the building. So, if you have those skills, please step-up. We would all like to have this operational before the end of the season.

Jim

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### **US Sailing MVP Program**

*By DSC Secretary, Ron Dettwiler*

US Sailing has launched a Member Value Partner (MVP) program that saves you money on your US Sailing membership fee. If you join, or renew, US Sailing through our club's MVP Program, you'll receive a substantial discount on your US Sailing membership fee.

- Families will get \$15 off the membership fee
- Individuals will get \$10 off
- And youths will get a discount of \$5

Our club also benefits from this MVP program as well. For every new member who joins or renews through the MVP program, our club will receive credits we can use to expand training programs or materials offered to participating sailors.

Some of you are already a US Sailing member. When your US Sailing membership comes up for renewal, we hope that you will renew through the DSC MVP Program to receive a discount on your membership and to strengthen the sailing programs at our club.

If you are not a current US Sailing member, I encourage all of you to join US Sailing through this program. As sailors, it is important to support their mission to grow the sport while at the same time expand the programs

A unique link for DSC has been created and will lead to our own join/renew page on the US Sailing website. The link is: [www.ussailingmvp.com/dsc](http://www.ussailingmvp.com/dsc)

Please let me know if you have any question about this program.

Ron

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## Donated O' Day Daysailer II looking for a new home

*By Jim Simons*



You may have noticed a new addition in the boat yard; an O' Day Daysailer, Hull # 24556, Class # 4600.

This boat was donated to DSC by a contractor in Alex City, Keith Moon. Keith's son might have used it occasionally, but it has evidently spent a lot of time in Keith's barn. Well until recently, when he was ripping a board, and it caught the saw blade and flew at the boat, punching a hole in the starboard cockpit seat back. The hole is just larger than a golf ball. The battens are lying in the cockpit, and are completely warped or separated. I haven't opened the sail bag, but they appear stiff, which is better than the alternative. So far, that hole and the battens are the only items that need fixing. The deck is slightly weathered, but not to the degree that it should be a problem. This is a centerboard boat, and I haven't looked at the board. The cuddy cabin has the original zippered fabric closure, but there is nothing in the cuddy cabin. The boat was last registered in 2010. I have the sails and cockpit cushions.

The boat is in better than average condition for its age. Based on the sail number, it appears to have been manufactured in the early 70's. This class was really popular in the 60's and 70's. My first sails on the Potomac were in an Osprey, which is essentially the same hull, but without the cuddy cabin.

This boat was donated to the club, and the Board intends to sell the boat for the best price, and use the funds for developing a Juniors' fleet. We would like to keep the boat in the club. The concept is that this, and future donated boats, would not remain as club boats, unless they happened to be the chosen Juniors' fleet class.

This would be a great family boat with a large cockpit and fractional rig. So, if you are interested in the boat, get with me and I'll give you the tour. I'd prefer not actually taking her out until that hole is patched, as it is about kidney high.

We expect to occasionally receive more donated boats, and should develop a uniform means of managing their preparation and sale. These boats would only be available for test sails by members, or potential members, who are seriously interested in actually buying the

boat. If we had a few boats for sale, and anyone could just pick one and sail it, the boats would quickly lose value and compromise any recovery by the club. For the lack of a better term, I'll try being the custodian of this boat, just to see what works, and what doesn't work.

So, if you are interested in helping clean up the boat, so she is a little more presentable, please get with me. We need to fix that hole, replace the battens and polish/wax the deck and topsides.

We don't have a fixed closing date to move this boat, but we would like to move it before July, so the new owner will have the rest of the summer and fall to enjoy the lake. Our asking price on this boat is \$1,250. If a non-member buys the boat and wants to join, we would forgive their initiation fee, so the price is effectively \$1,000. Spread the word.

Jim

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### **For Sale – 1986 192 O'Day**

Great sailboat for a beginner. Accommodations: double berth, two single berths, porta potti, opening port, opening hatch. Electrical: 12V system, DC panel, cabin lights, steaming lights. Deck: single lifelines, removable swim ladder, cockpit cushions. Sails/Rigging: 2 mainsails with one reef point, roller furling jib, additional racing jib. Hinged mast, topping lift. 6 hp outboard (needs work). Single-axle trailer with bearing buddies. Asking \$4,000.

Joe McDowell (former club member) [joe.mcdowell@me.com](mailto:joe.mcdowell@me.com)