

THE DIXIE DOINGS

Spring 2018

Race Schedule- Upcoming

- May 5 Club Racing
11:00 am - 3:00 pm
- May 26 McFadden Cup
- Jun 23 Club Racing
11:00 am - 3:00 pm
- Jun 30 Independence Day
Celebration
- Aug 25 Club Racing
11:00 am - 3:00 pm

Other Club Dates

- May 19 Club Work Party
- Jun 9 Intro to Sailing
10:00 am - 4:00 pm
- Jun 28-30
DSCYP Sailing Camp
- Jul 28 Club Work Party
- Aug 4 6th Annual Anniversary
Party



Notes from the Commodore

Commodore Allen Kennedy

Greetings and welcome to Spring of 2018! The Fall and Winter months were filled with projects and work parties which have yielded exciting results. Personally, it has been a thrill to arrive each weekend to see the progress. We have so many members who give time and energy and I want to take a moment to thank you. Compared to this time last year, we have more parking near the ramps, more camping space, more dock space, improved committee and rescue boats, new communication equipment, and improved pathways to and from most locations around the grounds. We also have a completed shoreline project at the site of the future clubhouse, complete with a sandy beach. That should get lots of use this summer. Finally, we have a new and improved boat hoist that is stronger, taller and will be re-opened any day now.

As I have said before, the people who make up the membership of DSC are the best part. The descriptions that

come to my mind regarding our fellow members are kind, caring and exceedingly generous and oh yes, also very competitive. We have been fortunate to have attracted more new members this past year. As our membership grows we will be able to do even more great works to continue the momentum towards our master plan for the site. Please make an effort to meet and welcome our new members.

Speaking of our site on Lake Martin, I want to always remember and remind others how fortunate we are for the generosity of Russell Lands. They make our presence at this location possible and they also appreciate what we contribute to the surrounding community. You will see several area events on our calendar again this year that support maintaining a clean, safe, collaborative and beautiful lake community. Please take time to attend these events as an important part of membership in Dixie Sailing Club.

Finally, I want to thank all of the volunteers who made our recent Punchbowl and Catalina 22 Region 3 Regattas successful. If you didn't see it, be sure to find an April copy of Lake Magazine. You will see the cover and a large section inside dedicated to the Punchbowl Regatta. The photos are wonderful. Also, Dick Cline has completed the article from the Region 3 Regatta and sent it, along with more photos, to be posted to the C22 national site. These two race weekends were well organized and so much planning went into both. This sailing season has gotten off to a wonderful start. See you all at the lake!

Region 3 Championship

Dick Cline, Fleet Captain

THE SHORT REPORT

The headline gives the short report of the Region 3 Championship Regatta held at Dixie Sailing Club, Lake Martin, AL on April 21 & 22. Dennis Slaton, and crew Wynn Story and Doug Thome from Lake Lanier Sailing Club, Fleet 58 dominated the four Gold Fleet races held during the regatta, taking three firsts and a second to become the 2018 Region 3 Champion. Silver Fleet was likewise dominated and won, by Ron Jenkie from Dixie Sailing Club Fleet 96 who also had three firsts and a second to win that award.

THE DETAILED REPORT

Saturday morning the 21st was the kick-off day for racing, and a more perfect day might have been hard to find! All week long the weather forecast was for a stormy rain and lightning filled day on the weekend – they just were not sure which one! At the start of the skippers meeting at 10 on Saturday morning it was partly sunny, and the NOAA VHF weather report at 10 said “currently 61 degrees with winds from the East at 18, gusting to 24” – yep going to be a great fun and challenging day for racing.

The list of those racing in Gold Fleet was a list of really great Gold Fleet racers, from a number of different clubs and fleets. Dennis



Dick Slaton, Region 3 Gold Fleet Champion

Slaton and Justin Cash from Lake Lanier; Jim Crane from Weiss/Rome, Sam Beckman from Tennessee, and current 2017 Region 3 Champion Mickey Richardson and Keith Bennett from host DSC – truly a list of strong Gold Fleet racers competing.

PRO Ted McGee addressed the NOR planned racing schedule for three races on Saturday and then the final two on Sunday, and changed the plan to have 4 on Saturday just in case Sunday weather did turn bad. All four races were completed in mostly 15+ winds and nice rolling white capped waves. So it was a fun time on the water. The only “casualty” so to speak was when DSC Commodore and Silver Fleet racer Allen Kennedy won the first race and then had to retire for the day after his headsail halyard broke just after he finished 20 seconds ahead of Jenkie! Other than that, we had great racing, a great BBQ dinner, a short Region 3 Annual Meeting and then all headed out to get ready for Sunday!



Keith Bennett, Region 3 Gold Fleet, 2nd place

Sunday – well the decision by the PRO to do 4 on Saturday proved the right idea. Oh the rain and thunder and lightning were still coming from the West. Just not quite as fast as predicted – because of the winds coming from the East and slowing it down. The nice part of the winds was there were no gusts to have to look for - but the other part of that was that they were nice and constant – all the time – at 24 miles per hour! Oh there was an occasional gust to near 30 but hey who cares when it is blowing a steady 24! I have always heard that whenever the wind level is about half the temp level it is not much fun to go racing. Sunday temp 50 and wind 24 pretty much proved that correct!

That ended the racing for the regatta, and the four races on Saturday gave a clear winner of the Region 3 Championship for 2018! Great job Dennis, Wynn and Doug! If you see some pictures of the awards presentations yes that is a storage shed! The winds were so strong and the temp at 50 degrees the number one goal for both having the free brunch and presenting the awards was to find a place where all did not get blown away!

Here are the race by race scores for Gold Fleet:

Racer	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL
Slaton	1	1	2	1	5
Bennett	2	5	1	2	10
Cash	4	2	3	4	13
Richardson	3	4	5	3	15
Beckman	5	3	4	5	17
Crane	6	6	6	6	24



Region 3 Championship Start

Youth Sailing Program

Jim Simons, DSCYP President

2018 DSCYP Events

On **Friday, 16 Mar**, a contingent of the Benjamin Russell High School Naval Junior ROTC came to the club for their initial exposure to sailing. The faculty advisor is a recently retired Navy Captain. The program for this first day was to simply take them sailing on C22s and larger cruisers at 0900, return for their box Lunch, and then orienting them to rigging the Lasers. The volunteer DSC captains were Jim Garner, Roger Smith, Ron Jenkie, Dave Harle, Dave Hilgendorf and Jim Simons. Keith Bennett skippered the photo boat, and Stephanie Childers organized the shore activities assisted by Sarah, Ethan and Norah Childers. Don Campbell took photos and wrote an article that was the front page of The Outlook for 20 March issue. Capt Leahey foresees further involvement with DSCYP, as this is a unique opportunity for the cadets to become familiar with how to be safe and enjoy the water. As the program develops, we will expand into the Optis and Lasers. Friday afternoon is the most convenient time for them, as this appears to be a normal drill day. The Captain has a CDL, so he can bring the cadets to DSC with a BRHS bus. This could be a very significant opportunity for DSCYP and DSC.

On **Wednesday, 2 May**, a group of local artists would like to capture the ambience of the club and moored boats. They are bringing in a guest art instructor. We might launch and anchor a couple of boats. In any case, the DSC support is minimal. The opportunity for community goodwill is noteworthy.

This year Sunfest is **4-9 June, Monday-Saturday**. The last two years Sunfest was Monday-Sunday, with our sailing demonstration on Sunday. We are still confirming if the organizers would like to have a sailing demonstration on Saturday. We understand there is no racing schedule on Saturday, 9 June, so the RC boats and DSC members will be free to participate up at Wind Creek. The Jazz Fest is **8 and 9 June**, as an element of Sunfest.

The DSC Intro to Sailing remains on **Saturday, 9 June**, using DSCYP Optis and Lasers for our guests. This is a great time to spread the word and show our guests the inclusiveness of the sailing community, especially on Lake Martin.

We are planning to conduct a 3-day sailing camp for **28-30 June**, with Saturday the 28th being the DSC 4th of July celebrations. This camp will require at least 6 adults for support and mentoring. Our target is 20 students. That's the 30,000 ft view, with lots of details to work out. One of our goals is to have each of the kids qualify for the US Sailing Small Boat Sailor Beginner, and perhaps Intermediate, Level certification. A nominal fee will be charged. Chaperons will be required, if kids are camping on-site. Of course, this will be a great family camping opportunity, as a run up to the 4th of July weekend. Why not just take vacation that week, and help with the sailing camp?

Karen Kison, Wellness and Recreation Director for Russell Lands, is having a camp at Children's Harbor 29 July – 1 Aug, Sunday-Wednesday, and would like to expose the kids to sailing on 2 of those days, **30-31 July**. She indicates as many as 30 kids, from kindergarten to junior high. Optis and Lasers would not be

appropriate, so the boats would probably be C22s that were trailered to Children's Harbor. As this is a logistical challenge, especially during the week, busing them to DSC would be preferred. More to come, as Stephanie negotiates with Karen.

The RL Ridge Summer Camp will be during the **11-14 June** and **9-12 July**. The actual rides are at The Ridge Beach Club on one day during each week, and usually involve one C22. Stephanie is also negotiating to have the kids bussed to DSC.

The past two years youth participation has been non-existent after Labor Day. So, our solitary scheduled event during the Fall will be the LMRA Treasured Mile Cleanup on Saturday, **3 November**, with other DSC members.

Survey Results

Back in January, Tony Berry sent a 10-question survey to each DSC member, and about 50 others who have sailed with the youth program, or attended a previous ITS. He used Survey Monkey, as it is free for 10 questions. Some responses were unexpected.

- Of the 19 responses, 15 had kids or grandkids. Seven of the respondents had not previously sailed with us.
- Monthly youth sailing and a 5-day camp appear to be clear participation favorites.
- Driving distance and competition from other interests were concerns, and out of our control. We could encourage parents to carpool, once they start participating, and get to know each other. Competition from other interests might be related to the meeting times and dates. Weekdays might work for some groups, such as the homeschoolers and the NJROTC.
- A nominal fee to offset maintenance and repair costs was accepted as reasonable.
- Many of the respondents would be interested in volunteering with youth sailing. DSC members are interested in having DSCYP members as crew on race or cruise days.
- The US Sailing STEM program was a popular potential feature.

Need Club Members Help

The DSCYP has the opportunity in 2018 to expand youth sailing on Lake Martin. Suzanne Scholz and Dave Harle have recently been elected to the DSCYP Board. However, we cannot be effective, with only a handful of "volunteers". The DSCYP Board is now only 6 positions with the DSC Commodore as ex-officio; we can be as many as 15. Callie is being deployed, so she is no longer available to serve as secretary. The other 5 of us could use a few good men, women and kids to become involved or simply support the Youth Program. This Board needs to be populated, but what we really need is DSC members, or others, who can assist with normal operations of the Youth Program. Please contact Stephanie, Tony, Scott, Suzanne, Dave or myself, if you'd like to help.

Boat For Sale - Proceeds benefit DSCYP

As you probably know, well over a year ago Cheryl and Callie donated their Neptune 24 to support the DSCYP. She is a sound craft, with a case of blister pox. During her unscheduled time on the hard, of over 2 years, the hull has dried out, allowing the blisters to be addressed more effectively. Effectively is not meant to infer “easy”, as the compromised gelcoat should be ground off, or individual areas opened to the substrate and filled with Interlux 2000 or a similar epoxy filler. This craft can be a great opportunity for a family that would like to cruise Lake Martin, after spending a hundred hours or so dealing with the blisters. Since the boat is not benefiting from simply sitting near our gate waiting for a miracle, we will reduce the asking price simply to find her another loving home. You may remember how the common knowledge around the boatyard was that Ricky’s C25 was past redemption, until Steve bought her and performed his magic. The Neptune is nowhere near the problem the C25 was, and she is simply looking for a new home. Please contact Dick Cline, if you are interested, or know of someone who might be interested.

Introduction to Sailing

Keith Bennett

This is the Dixie Sailing Club annual event designed to open our facilities to the public at **no charge** to experience one of the many great resources on Lake Martin.

We are a private sailing club promoting all aspects of sailing. The club was established in 1960 and has been active since that time.



The Introduction to Sailing will be held on Saturday, June 9th, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM. Lunch and refreshments will be served.

Scheduled activities include:

- A short course on the basics of sailing.
- Basic introduction to the parts of a sailboat.
- Capsizing and recovery demonstration.

What to bring:

- Life jacket (if available)
- Swim Suit
- Change of dry clothes
- Towel
- Sunscreen

Guests will have an opportunity to skipper a small sailboat (if they so desire) and go sailing on larger boats with club members. Private tours will be given in and around the new club property.

The Dixie Sailing Club was relocated in 2012 to 767 New Hope Church Road, Alexander City, Alabama 35010, which off Wicker Point Road. The directions from surrounding cities are posted on our website www.dixiesailingclub.com.

Pre-registration is requested but not required. For registration and additional information, please contact Keith Bennett at cat221@msn.com or (334)324.9383.

Harbormaster Update

Jim Simons

Dock A is Completed and Commissioned



Dock A view

After lots of effort over the winter, Keith and a dedicated crew of members completed Dock A, and it is now open for operations.

All the wet slips are assigned to members who have been on the Waiting List for a while. Currently, we have 2 members on the list. If you would like to be placed on the list, so you may have a slip if one of them becomes available on Dock A or Dock D, please drop me an email. Only email requests will be recognized, as I might forget a casual request.

The moorings are all member-owned. Some moorings will now become available as members move to Dock A. Please get with me if you are interested in one.

As a matter of nomenclature, we will refer to the slips at Dock A as A1,A2...and the Slips at Dock D as D1, D2...