



CATSCAN

Newsletter of the Clinton River Catalina Association

Founded 1988

May, 2008

Calendar

Social Schedule

- Twentieth Annual Commodore's BallApr 12
Sterling Inn, Van Dyke and 15 mile
- Fun Race and Picnic - Markley Marine May 31

Cruising Schedule

- Jefferson Beach Marina Rendezvous..... Jun 14
- Snibora Channel Raft-off, &
St. Clair Municipal Marina Jun 20, 21
- Thames River – Smugglers Marina Jul 4, 5
- Metro Beach Jul 19
- IC30A Regatta - Port Huron Aug 1, 2, 3
- Belle River- Belle River Marina Aug 16
- Windsor – Lakeview Marina.....Aug 31, Sep 1
- Pumpkin Cruise - Metro Beach Sep 27

Race Schedule

- Fun Race and PicnicMay 31
- IC30A Regatta - Port Huron Aug 1, 2, 3
- Spring Series.....May 15, 22,29, Jun 05,12,19
- Spring makeup if needed.....Jun 26
- Fall Series.....Aug 07, 14,23,28, Sep 04,11
- Fall makeup if neededSep 18

2008 CRCA Officers

- Steve SmithCommodore 248 553-3162
- Doug PostVice Commodore 586 412-7864
- Roy SchoenherrSecretary 810 794-3007
- Linda ReedTreasurer 248 652-3325
- Larry CaricchioMember-at-Large 248 852-3078

2008 Committee Chairs

- Paul KurkowskiConstitution 586 675-8211
- Judi Schoenherr and 810 794-3007
- Becky SmithCruising 248 553-3162
- Paul KruttyRacing 248 649-0597
- John PechaMembership 586 469-1634
- Ted WingNewsletter 248 373-5463
- Becky and Glen Ellison ... Social..... 586 463-7876
- Gae WingPhotographer 248 373-5463
- Erv Zimmerman.....Web Master..... 586 949-3527

Catscan is published 5 times yearly in March, May, July, September and December.

Commodores Corner

Steve Smith

Well, Twice Belled is launched. Mast is up and the boat secured. We followed Deanna J at the gin pole and got some help from club members in getting things hooked up and the boat over to the slip. That's one of the nice things about sailing, it seems there's always a helping hand when you need it.

Our club racers have attended the skipper's meeting and are actively tuning up for the spring series. The cruise committee advises they have volunteers for all the cruise leader positions. Check out the schedule and plan to participate. You can download the registration form from our web site.

We are planning to have a great summer both cruising and racing. Why not come out and join us.

See you soon.

Steve Smith *"Twice Blessed"*

Social Scene

Becky & Glen Ellison, 2008 Social Committee

This year the fun race picnic will be held Saturday, May 31. A picnic consisting of BBQ hamburgers, hot dogs and potato salad will be available for a charge of \$5 per person. Dessert will be cookies. Bring your own beverage of choice. Location for the picnic is at Markley Marine the gazebo closest to the Clinton River. Picnic time will be around 3 pm shortly after the race. A general membership meeting will be held at the picnic. Look forward to seeing every one there.

Becky & Glen Ellison *"Adventure"*

CRCA Web Site, www.crcasail.org

Remember, you can check our web site for cruise schedules and race results. The site also provides the opportunity to set up your own e-mail account or use ahoythere@crca.org to send a message to the whole club. Check it out!

Race Report

Paul Krutty, Race Chair

. Welcome back racers.

As of this writing, we have nine boats registered for JAM and four for PHRF. It would be great to increase both fleets.

If any members are on the fence about whether to race or not, come out and join us on Thursday evenings for some friendly competition.

Paul Krutty *"Sea Quell"*

Fun Race - Saturday, May 31

Doug Post, Fun Race Chairman

This year's fun race will take place Saturday, May 31. The first gun will be at 11 a.m. at CR1. There will be one start only, and we're racing with just a single sail (main or Genoa) unless the wind is really light, then we'll have to resort to two sails.

Scoring will be by the "still being invented system." The order of finish counts, but not as much as having fun. If I told you how the scoring system worked, then what fun would that be? As always, points will be awarded for making the members of the race committee laugh; the harder we laugh, the more points you score.

The course will either be to the A mark (course heading 330 degrees) or the B mark (course heading 030 degrees). Green flag up = 10 minute warning; green flag down = start.

A barbecue picnic will follow the race at the Markley Marina gazebo at around 3 p.m. Look for the CRCA banner. Cost per person will be \$5. Remember to bring your own beverages and lawn chairs.

As has been tradition, a general membership meeting will follow the picnic.

We hope to see ya all there. This is one event that you don't need to know the rules of racing. Just come out and have a good time! If you need on-course instructions, just motor by the committee boat shortly before the race begins.

Your Fun Race Hosts

Doug & Jean Post *"Whippin' Post"*

C22 Fleet Activity

Mike Bracket - Captain, Fleet 130

The Catalina 22 Fleet will be hosting the Eighth Annual C22 National Sailing Association Great Lakes Cruise July 20-26th. This year we will launch our boats at Lexington MI and sail 'down stream' to Toledo Beach Marina on Western Lake Erie. We will make stops at Port Huron, Metro Beach, Tri-Centennial State Park, Elizabeth Park and Toledo Beach. We already have several boats registered and expect 12 to as many as 15 participants from as far away as Idaho and Kansas. If anyone is interested in participating, let me know.

Mike Bracket *"Gunsmoke"*

From the Poop Deck **Seaworthy Ideas and Stuff**

Paul Kurkowski

Ahoy there mates and a very happy springtime to you all. Once again we find ourselves at that time of year when the smells of spring are paint, varnish, oil and cleaning fluid. Many of us have already floated the hull and put the big stick up. While others tune the rig and start the provisioning processes an exclusive group have already had their first shakedown sail. Yet still, a handful more have participated in a race or two. Do not fret, as it is a long season. For most of us, our final sail of the season won't happen 'til early October.

For those still in the early stages of readiness, a few helpful reminders: open the through-hulls especially for the engine. Then tighten the alternator belt and check the fresh water impeller. Check them batteries – all of them, even the flashlights. Speaking of lights, check them too. Remove the excess fluid from the transmission and or change it if you haven't. Check the engine oil. Make sure the color and level is correct. After all, you changed the oil, as recommended, last fall just before hauling it out. Make sure your outboard engines are circulating cooling water and the lower units are full with grease.

Stuff: further evidence that the lake water is getting better was reported from the Detroit River. The dinosaur era fish called Sturgeon were re-introduced on the Canadian side of Fighting Island. Recently a 7 foot, 132-pound Sturgeon was caught, tagged, and released. The spawning ground riverbed consisting of rock chucks will be perfect for eggs of hatchlings. The oily Sturgeon was at one time caught to use as fuel in ships boilers. Green technology? I don't think so but maybe there's a future in Sturgeon Farming. Then too and in addition, there's always Caviar...

That's it for now.

Casting off all lines. Color me gone.

Paul Kurkowski *"Space Hunter"*

Winter Party Report

Don Tishler

As much as I remember it, everyone had a good time. Good drinks, good food and fellowship prevailed. I thought the 13 couples would be too many for my apartment but it was just fine. People were chatting in the kitchen, some in the den and others scattered in the living room and hallway. Lots of make-up conversions as it was a long winter. Mike Barber was late due to being at the American Sailing Association Banquet. He's this year's president. Mike's games got postponed till later and Don forgot to give out the prizes so there will be double prizes at our fourth of July outing.

P.S. Suggestion to future hosts when you work all day preparing till a half hour before guests arrive and haven't eaten, don't sit down and have a drink or two to get in the mood.

Don Tishler *"Hockey Puck"*

Cruising Column

Becky Smith and Judi Schoenherr 2008 Cruise Committee

Hello Fellow Sailors:

Please join us for a fun filled 2008 cruise season. This will be our 20th year cruising with CRCA. Steve and I were the original cruise directors in 1988 and have participated with Azzurra and now Twice Blessed all 20 years. This cruise schedule allows you to use your sailboat and enjoy sailing more than if you plan on your own.

So come join us if you have never done this before. We will be there to help you navigate and dock.

Happy Cruising,

Becky Smith *"Twice Blessed"*

2008 Cruise Schedule

Jefferson Beach Marina Rendezvous

Saturday, June 14th.

Cruise Leaders -

Steve & Becky Smith(248) 553-3162

Leave CR 1 at 9 a.m.

Sail approximately 3-4 hours weather permitting

Slip fees

\$45.00 - 26'-35' feet

\$68.00 - 36'-49' feet

This is the first CRCA cruise to St. Clair Shores Nautical Mile area. Jefferson Beach Marina is the only marina that has deep enough water for all CRCA sailboats to dock overnight. Normally, we would not cruise to here, but due to the many openings all marinas are experiencing in the last couple of years we thought this would be a nice change. We will be on D-Dock or Gas Dock. Our slips will be all on one dock but not all in a row.

The Nautical Mile area has many restaurants, ice cream shop, bars, and shopping to explore.

Bring your BIKES or DINGHY to explore.

5 p.m. Cocktail party Bring LIGHT SNACKS ONLY

7:30 p.m. Dinner reservations at Jack's Waterfront Restaurant (e-mail or call Steve & Becky Smith how many for dinner on boat)

9-9:30 p.m. Music & Dancing at Jack's

Yes, Jack's is connected to Emerald Beach Marina and you will walk, bike or dinghy over to Jack's. If you walk you must walk out to Jefferson Ave. and enter at Emerald Beach Marina. So, if you do not have bike or dinghy hitch a ride. Steve remembers a free shuttle that runs to all the bars up and down the street last year, but not sure if it is still running. A cab would not be expensive.

Saturday is later than normal activities so you will have plenty of time to take naps if needed, explore nautical shopping, find the best ice cream, or just relax on your boat and catch up with CRCA members.

Sunday June 15 Happy Father's Day.

Cruise Leader and Father of Twins ,Steve Smith, will be doing his favorite thing on this day. Hopefully enjoying a nice sail back to homeport.

But, first Sunday Breakfast.

Suggestions from locals? Please e-mail us if you have a favorite place.

The sail back would be a great event for fathers Day. People could meet you at Jefferson Beach and sail back to the Clinton River. Then a short car ride to pick up the car if necessary.

Snibora Channel Raft-off and

St. Clair Municipal Marina,

Friday and Saturday, June 21st, 22nd

Cruise Leaders –

Roy & Judi Schoenherr(810) 794-3007

1st night is Friday June 20. We will raft off at Snibora Channel. This will be an easy sail after work; retirees have all day to arrive. Morning Star II will be on station by 4:00

Saturday we will move up river to the St. Claire Municipal Marina for overnight. We plan dinner at the St. Claire Inn.

All those signed up for this cruise will receive an e-mail with final details.

Thames River – Smugglers Marina

Friday, July 4, 5 Weekend

Cruise Leader - Don Tishler(586) 777-7273

Our theme will be our fine country.

We will have events about our flag, our constitution, our pledge of allegiance, and national songs. Although we all could use a little history review, we hope to have a bit of fun along the way. We might even have a presidential contest where our candidates will not be able to tell the truth in their speeches.(sound familiar ?)

One event will be a costume contest. Mike wants you to dress up like your favorite American and he will award prizes for originality, funniest, and prettiest. (male & female). Additional information will be sent via e-mail.

Metro Beach

Saturday, July 19th

Cruise Leaders –

Doug & Jean Post(586) 412-7864

Paul & Barb Kurkowski(586) 675-8211

Dock at Metro by 10 a.m. (can't promise to hold well). Several games planned, which are still a mystery. Details to follow.

International C30 Association Regatta

Port Huron

Friday - Sunday, August 1,2,3.

Cruise Leaders –

Steve Smith(248) 553-3162

Roy Schoenherr(810) 794-3007.

See the July issue for details.

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Belle River- Belle River Marina**Saturday August 16th.**

Cruise Leaders –

Chuck and Linda Reed(248) 652-3325

Roy and Judi Schoenherr(810) 794-3007

We are at it again! This time it is a Toga Party! Don't know how to make a toga? No problem - go to <http://www.howtomakeatoga.info/> and everything you



always wanted to know about togas is here. By the way togas don't need to be white, use your imagination. There will be prizes! More details to follow soon. This is one cruise you don't want to miss.

Windsor – Lakeview Marina**Saturday and Sunday, August 30th & 31st.**

Cruise Leaders –

Jack and Janet Creed(248) 623-0628

Bill and Deanna Lundy(586) 228-5864

Ted and GaeWing(248) 373-5463.

See the July issue for details.

Pumpkin Cruise – Metro Beach**Saturday, September, 27th.**

Cruise Leaders –

Glen & Becky Ellison (586) 463-7876

Details in a future issue.

Membership Report**John Pecha - Membership Chairman**

2008 is over 1/3 past us. Hard to believe isn't it. It seems like just a few weeks ago we were enjoying all the snow, wondering how much it would raise the level of Lake St. Clair, as opposed to the lubbers worried about how much of it they have to shovel. But, here we are and a number of CRCA boats are now in the water and all are getting their crafts prepared for the sailing season. Speaking of the season, which is now at hand, 27 of 38 members have submitted their dues. If you haven't yet sent them, take a few minutes to write out that check and join in all the fantastic adventures planned for this season.

I would like to welcome new members Gary and Marie Johns. Their recently purchased 30ft will be sailed from Vermillion, OH to its new residence on the Clinton River sometime in the next couple of weeks. I would like to also welcome Christopher and Loretta Frake. They have a 22ft and intend to participate in racing and cruising this season. I look forward to seeing everyone again on the race course and at our cruising destinations.

John Pecha *“WINDependence”*

Note: The list below shows those who have paid their 2008 dues. If you're not on the list, I'd like to hear from you.