



CATSCAN

Newsletter of the Clinton River Catalina Association

Founded 1988

September, 2008

Calendar

Social Schedule

Fall Business Meeting, Date and location TBD
2009 Commodore's Ball, Gino's Surf Lounge Mar 28

Cruising Schedule

Pumpkin Cruise - Metro Beach Sep 27

Race Schedule

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 EllisonSocial..... 586 463-7876
Gae WingPhotographer 248 373-5463
Erv Zimmerman.....Web Master..... 586 949-3527



SS Minnow, Fun Race, June, '08

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

Commodore's Corner

Steve Smith

Well here it is September already. We've had some great sails this year. I know we had a lot of good sailing weekends because the wind was up and we never used the dingy to go riding around and swimming.

Welcome to our first all paperless newsletter. I am sure Ted is outdoing himself in this issue with color pictures and other eye catching items.

We had some great cruises and don't forget the Pumpkin Cruise coming up in a couple of weeks.

See you soon.

Steve Smith

"Twice Blessed"

Social Scene

Becky & Glen Ellison, 2008 Social Committee

Commodore Ball 2009

Saturday, March 28, 2009 will be the date for the up coming Commodore Ball. Time is 6:30 to 11:30 pm at Gino Surf Lounge on Jefferson. All final details and pricing will be forth coming after finalization.

Invitational Picnic

Thanks to everyone who participated in the 2008 Invitational Race. Paul will have to provide the list of boat participants and their standings. I have the list of picnic participants. There were a total of 28 participants at the picnic and all went well with fun had by all.

We thank the following, Kathy C. for her helping me with transportation of subs and food and Doug and Jean for reservation of picnic area at Markley Marina.

We especially thank those who took the time to respond in advance to our email. This was a great asset and a deciding factor on food required.

Becky & Glen Ellison

"Adventure"

Membership Report

John Pecha - Membership Chairman

Do you know the CRCA Secret Handshake?

Stop reading for a few minutes and think back on your memories of CRCA activities. The cruises, games, picnics, races, Commodore's Balls, and all the other activities have all left indelible memories.

Now think about why you joined the CRCA. There are probably a number of reasons, but I believe there is one which is predominant over all the rest. Which leads me to my question: Do you know the CRCA Secret Handshake?

A while back a power boating neighbor stopped me and asked if my Sailboat Club had a secret handshake. "None that I know of", was my reply. When I asked him why he would ask such a question he replied he had never in his years of boating seen a club with more comradarie than ours. You are always helping one another. I keep seeing you gathering as a group for drinks or discussing this or that issue on a boat and what to do to resolve it and it just left an impression.

Then I remembered why I joined. Mike Bracket and Erv Zimmerman helping me learn sail trim on Laura's Gale, words of encouragement from Paul and Barb when I was in between boats, advice and assistance from Ted Wing and Bill Lundy when I acquired WINDependence, learning race techniques from Jack Creed, and I will never forget how much Jack and Nancy, Roy and Judy, and Chuck and Linda helped Laura and I become a boating couple.

We all lead by example and I can't think of a better way to explain to someone outside the CRCA why I joined. I found they had a secret handshake...its called caring and friendship. I can't think of a better way to grow this organization.

John Pecha *"WINDependence"*

A note on dues for the coming season:

At the meeting at Metro Beach this summer, members voted to increase dues to \$40 a year. This is the first increase, **ever!** The revised membership application is included in this issue and will be available on the club website.

There is a new field on the application for a cell phone number. It is strictly optional. Some members were frustrated because they couldn't contact others when they weren't home (at the marina or out on the boat, for instance.) You may list your cell or not at your discretion. Any numbers provided will be included on the published member list.

Dues are DUE by December 31 but are gratefully accepted now.

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

Paul Kurkowski

Ahoy mates and happy late Summer. I sure do hope the season has been a good one for you all.

As part of the boating community, we all dodged a big bullet called, the Clean Boating Act of 2008. I am sure it was due to a collective action of most "pleasure boaters" of writing via e-mail their Congress and House representatives. Good grief, regulating gray water, bilge water, cooling water, engine discharges and a few more incidental discharges including weather deck run off would have driven us all over that big waterfall just beyond the horizon. It turns out, these regulations will not affect "pleasure boats," at least not at this time. As I understand, all other vessels in USA waters will have to comply with federal ERA standards enforced by the Coast Guard.

Boy, all that could really put the kibosh on the ailing boating industry. Can you imagine, first you get inspected by Customs then the Coast Guard gets a crack at you too! Jeez, that could make for a long day.

The CRCA Race night series (Thursdays) is near its completion and the cruises are near done with only one, the Pumpkin, remaining. By my count, we will have our hulls in dry dock in eight weeks or less. Even now, the daylight is down to thirteen hours and we are, at this time of year, and losing a minute of daylight per day. [Kinda depressing ain't it?]

Sooner then I'd like it, the daily high temperatures will be in the 70's.

Once you are on the hard, don't forget to loosen alternator belts, open all seacocks and make sure your boat is cradled with a slight stern-down angle allowing for cockpit drainage.

I know that our website has all the Great Lakes NOAA charts. [Nice job Erv.] If you haven't used them, you've missed a great source of information. Check them out. Now, check this out. A French company called GeoGarage is currently developing charts using seamless overlays of NOAA charts and Google maps. The downside, you will not be able to print them as you would a Google map.

That's it for now.

Casting off all lines. Color me gone.

Paul Kurkowski *"Space Hunter"*

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

It has been a beautiful summer as far as the racers are concerned.

We have completed four races at this writing with two to go.

The Invitational Race was run on an absolutely beautiful day with steady winds out of the SE at about 10kts. Unfortunately we only had five participants. However, the event, including the picnic at Markley's afterwards, was enjoyed by all. (Thank you Glen & Becky.) We had two guest boats from NSSC participate. Desire owned by Michael Clow & Wind Dance owned by Michael Williams. The CRCA boats were, Gunsmoke, Whippin Post & Zingara.

Paul Krutty *"Sea Quell"*

Editor's Note:

This is the first Catscan issue to be delivered exclusively by e-mail. It's provided as an attachment in PDF (Adobe Portable Document Format). There are advantages to this delivery method.

First, it saves money, dropping the cost of printing and mailing to, essentially, nothing. The result is a saving of \$200 - 300 per year.

Second, it allows for the addition of an occasional photo or other color graphic without incurring the expense of color copying. These additions will be kept to a minimum in deference to those still using dial-up connections. Check out the header on page one.

Third, it will result in receipt of your new issue a few days earlier than if copied and mailed. The delivery is still dependent on timely arrival of contributions and on the editor avoiding distractions.

A disadvantage is the need to print locally if you want a hard copy. Also, the member list will no longer be included in the issue. It will be provided as a separate PDF file.

In addition to this mailing each issue will continue to be available on the club website.

Take a look. If you have a suggestion, feel free to send it to me at tedwing@comcast.net.

Ted Wing *"Bear Paws"*

Murphy's Laws of Boat Care - by Simon Hill

1. "A small 'project' undertaken just before your cruising vacation always turns into a big project."

For the purposes of this law, a "project" is anything that involves merely touching a mechanical or structural component of the boat. Starting the engine counts as a small project.

Cruising Column

Becky Smith and Judi Schoenherr

2008 Cruise Committee

Hello Fellow Sailors:

Thanks for making our year a the cruising helm a success. All that participated seemed to enjoy each cruise. We extend a special thanks to our sponsors. Your efforts were much appreciated. Remember here is still one very special cruise left. Take a look at Becky and Glen's item below and join them at the Pumpkin Cruise.

Becky Smith *"Twice Blessed"*

Judi Schoenherr *"Morning Star II"*

2008 Cruise Schedule

Pumpkin Cruise – Metro Beach

Saturday, September, 27th.

Cruise Leaders – Glen & Becky Ellison (586) 463-7876

Here come the cruise,

Here come the cruise,

Here come the cruise.

The Ellison's would once again like to invite you to the annual pumpkin cruise, located in Metropolitan Commune (Metro Beach South Marina) September 27, 2008 in the afternoon. Theme of the party is 60/70's. Show up with a non-political protest sign or signs. We are also requesting photographs of you from the 60/70's (back when your hair was a different color or the hipper you.) As usual we will have the campfire with dogs and buns, which you roast yourself. Bring a dish to pass. Come via water or land everyone is welcome. After dark movies will be viewed. Extra donations from your Woodstock (firewood) as well as helpful hands are always welcome. Hope to see you there.

Remember prizes will be awarded for best protest sign, photo identification, pumpkin, costume and games.

Be sure the picture is something that you might not get back in same condition because of weather etc. Suggestion for pictures, place picture in a sealed plastic wrap of some kind with your name on the back. These will be secretly registered and placed on a viewing board for everyone to see.

Protest sign can be any size. They should be secured to a stick so they can be stuck into ground. Please do not print your name on the sign.

Costumes are optional but it would be cool dude. Can you dig it.

Pumpkins; please carve ahead of time. Competition is welcomed. Judging will be held after dark. A fire proof suit may be advisable.

Becky and Glen *"Adventure"*

A message from our Commodore,

A sincere welcome to new members and ahoy and welcome back to returning members.

The Clinton river Catalina Association is dedicated to the following principles:

- To be inviting to new members by providing a variety of sailing activities and the support resources of the club's combined several hundred years sailing and Catalina experience.
- To retain current members by providing challenging racing events and enjoyable social activities.
- To have fun and to enjoy and appreciate these wonderful boats of ours.

Steve Smith,
Commodore, Clinton River Catalina Association

CLINTON RIVER CATALINA ASSOCIATION

2009 SEASON - MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

(APPLICATION TO BE FILLED OUT ANNUALLY, Membership fee due January 1)

Boat Owner _____

Spouse/Friend/Partner _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Telephone #, Home _____ Work _____

Cell Phone, (Optional: For contact when you are on your boat.) _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Boat Name _____ Length _____

Boat Moored (Location) _____

MC # _____ Sail # _____ Hull # _____

Inboard / Outboard Standard Rig / Tall Racing / Cruising Keel Fin / Wing
(circle one) (circle one) (circle one or both) (circle one)

SIGNATURE _____

Enclose check payable to CRCA with this application and mail to:

**John Pecha, Membership Chairman
25637 Cortez
Harrison Twp, MI 48045**

(586) 469-1634

stclairsailor@wideopenwest.com

CRCA Dues (DUE Dec 31): \$40.00

CRCA Club Burgee: \$32.00

(Please note: National dues are to be paid by individuals to their National Organization Fleet. We encourage you to join the national organization. You can view the Catalina web site at www.catalinayachts.com, click the "Associations and Links" button to find the association web site for owners of your Catalina model.)