

Starboard Tack



West Shore Sail Club

P.O. Box 369 Trenton, MI 48183-0369

June 2004

Minutes of the General Membership Meeting 06 May 2004

Call to Order: 1948

Secretary's Report: Motion to approve minutes as published, motion passed.

Commodore's Report: Mail- Received the usual junk mail, and copies of "The Lead Line" and "Sailing World", along with several late membership renewals.

Vice Commodore's Report: Racing- With the approval of the board the RC has purchased 9 replacement buoys for WNATR. The cost of these purpose-built buoys was \$1046, the buoys are guaranteed for 5 years, it is hoped they will last 10, they will be much easier to deploy and retrieve. The splits meeting will be on May 10th at 7:30 at the Howe's, the skippers meeting on May 11th at 7:30 at F.Y.C. , help is needed for WNATR buoy deployment, volunteers should report to "Duck Factory" at F.Y.C. on May 13 at 4:30 p.m.

Rear Commodore's Report:

Cruising- The summer cruising schedule has been set, due to lack of interest the "Icebreaker" has been cancelled. Sign up sheets for the Memorial Weekend cruise will be available at tonight's meeting or please contact George Schiffer, due to a lack of response from Toledo Yacht Club we will

be going to Toledo Beach Marina, where 8 slips will be available. Members are reminded that they have until June 1 to sign up for a distance cruising flag, with another reminder that distances are from port to port only, 250 nm. is needed to be awarded a flag. The captain's meeting for the 2-week summer cruise will be held immediately after the June GMM, anyone interested in joining the summer cruise should plan on attending, please contact Lary Smith ASAP if you haven't signed up yet, we need to know how many slips to reserve in at least 2 of the ports. The next regular meeting of the CC will be held on October 12 at 1:00 p.m., please bring a dish to pass. We are pleased to announce that the June program will feature Rich Synowiec from "Divers Inc.", the program will be about, and you guessed it, scuba diving! We're looking forward to an interesting presentation.

Treasurer's Report: As of May 6 the club has \$3376 in the checking account, \$2875.56 and \$3259 in the cd's.

Membership Chairperson: The club has 3 new members at tonight's meeting, Tina Askins, Jody Larrou and Andrea Duane as well as 2 visitors, Craig ? and Richard ?. Welcome all, good to have you here! We are also pleased to announce that Marth Ridge and Gene Swift will be re-joining the club.

Video Librarian: We have 2 new titles, "The Complete Stupid Boat Tricks", and "The Great Lakes Cruiser Back Issue" on cd.

Delegate Reports: PHRF-LE: Doug Howe: Six boats were given rating changes, one managed to get a six second increase in their rating, the name of the boat owner wasn't disclosed at

this time, full reports will be made available at a later date. The suspended changes in cruising class credits will be a subject of the winter meeting, with a strong possibility that these changes will be implemented in the 2005 season, the changes were first proposed to insure that boats weren't taking advantage of handicaps allowed for roller furling systems. Club members were again reminded to see Doug if they want to renew their individual USSailing memberships.

I-LYA: Brenda Woodruff: A report of the I-LYA annual Spring Meeting was made available at tonight's meeting, some of the most interesting highlights follow: There will be a Tartan 10 championship at Bay Week this year to be held on a separate course, 35-40 boats are expected to participate, and the T-10 racers are donating \$500 toward the Rum Party! I-LYA is also trying to develop a cruising class race for non racers at Bay Week Bay Week instructions have been re-written with a revised windward-leeward course and new starting line. It was also reported that the state of Ohio has purchased a large portion of North Bass Island with a plan to add marinas for recreational boating while preserving the rest of the area in it's natural state.

Old Business: The club secretary will be making a presentation to the board of the DRYA in June, if possible.

New Business: The club's reciprocal privilege guest dock will be at Gene Swift's, the board passed a motion at the last executive committee meeting to

exchange annual membership dues in the club for the club's use of the slip as a reciprocal privilege slip. The July GMM will be held on the 1st of July, not on the 8th as was recently suggested.

Next GMM: 03 June 2004

Next Board Meeting: 17 June at the Priest's Adjourn: 2024



Currents

GMM Meeting, Mr. Nicks, Thursday, June 3, 2004, 7:30 pm Arrive early for broasted chicken buffet
Rich Synowich is unable to present his program at this meeting. We look forward to him at a future date.

Cruises:

11 - 13 June - to Leamington.

4 July to Sandusky Sailing Club with Ford YC

17 July - 2 Aug. Week long summer cruise

13 - 14 August - to the Leamington Tomato Festival.

Racing:

6/11- TYC - Mills Trophy Race

6/19 WSSC Regatta

7/5 WSSC Double handed Race

Our Seafaring Friends

We left Rock Sound on the 5th and sailed & motored to Hatchet Bay. Along the way Nimbus developed a serious leak in an injector fuel line and they called and called for help, no response! By now the wind was too light for them to make any progress to windward, we had a problem. I had thought that it was possible to pinch off a line and run the engine in an emergency but Ken didn't want to chance it. Then another cruiser answered and said that they had done this to tractor engines and moved them to the barn as long as you didn't do it for too many miles and at a reduced RPM. So he did it and it worked! We finished the trip to Hatchet Bay and stayed the night. The next day we sailed and motored again through Current Cut and on to Royal Island, which is a short distance from Spanish Wells. This is a very nice stopping point, the anchorage is something unusual in the Bahamas, it has 360 degree protection from the wind and seas. This at a time that the weather forecast was nice, naturally. We walked the ruins of a beautiful facility, we didn't know the origin until later, there were many rumours. The whole place was built with cut stone from the island and there were many buildings. We found out later that it was a wealthy family's home and they had simply abandoned it! We just idled around for a day and left for Spanish Wells on the 8th, which is only about 7 miles away. We went into the Spanish Wells Yacht Haven and tied up at a dock and enjoyed a somewhat low cost dock stay. The town was quite a surprise, it was dry! There wasn't a single place to go and have a drink with dinner, or without! But the people of the town were wonderful! We managed to get Ken's part ordered and even managed to get our new bank cards delivered. Nimbus was now running properly and guess what! The wind was again blowing hard from the NE to E and the seas were running 10 ft. and breaking! Again we were stuck for excessive wind! It was nice in a way because we stayed at the dock and met some nice people from NY, NY. They had some things to say about 9/11 since they were live-aboards that were in Liberty Marina at the time and saw the second plane hit. Different circumstances kept them from their jobs that were only a block away and Gene used to walk thru between the towers going to work! We taught them how to play Mexican Train and Farkel. Carol became a ! MT addict. Gene & Carol have a custom built Kanter 65' overall that is made of aluminum. It was beautiful! They had been brought in

from Harbor Island by a pilot called "Little Woody". He was a treat! He spent several evenings sitting on the dock telling us about Spanish Wells. We managed to find a place to find fresh fish thanks to Woody. We went there and watched them clean a freshly caught Mahi-Mahi. That was really good, I marinated it in olive oil, rum and sour orange and then sprinkled it with Emerils, paprika, granulated garlic and dill. Well now that I have your taste buds activated I'll leave.

Ta Ta for now, Jerry & Mary "Whisper"

We saw and learned many things here in SW. This is a major supplier for lobster tails to FL. The fishing industry here was not too large up until the late 80s when a number of changes were made to their approach. They heard that the Cubans were using large tractor tires that were worn out to create artificial reefs to improve their fishing, it gave the young fish a place to hide. They adapted the idea and started creating a simple protective shelter for the young lobsters. The industry has boomed! People are coming from all over to see the results. The people of SW are the richest in the islands per population. The other advance is the oil free pumps that they are now using. They used to free dive to harvest the lobsters now they use small air pumps to supply air to the divers. The pumps are mounted in small boats with 200 hp outboards with highly accurate GPS units. The mother boat will go out with maybe 5 of the smaller boats and the small boats will dash around !

To the many artificial reefs they have created and memorized the location of with their GPS units. In the evening they go back to the mother ship and rest for the next days fishing. They are quite proud of their accomplishments and it seems justified. They aren't over fishing their waters, simply making it easier for more small lobsters to grow.

I hope this wasn't too boring we were so impressed.

We left SW on the 20th and sailed & motorsailed our way to Little Harbor in the Abaco Islands. It was a miserable trip! The seas were 7 - 10 ft. on our stern quarter and the winds were on the beam! We corkscrewed our way from SW to the Abacos. Then we had to negotiate the pass into the protected waters of the Sea of Abaco, and the chartplotter picked that time to act up for the first time! Thank goodness the plotter started to work again and the marks I had to put in the GPS weren't necessary. The relief that we felt on dropping the anchor was incredible! This trip probably wouldn't have been so bad if I hadn't come down with some kind of stomach flu the day before.

The anchorage was nice and we took the dinghy to over to Little Harbor the next day. It was nice to have lunch and a BEER! The place is called Petes Pub and part of the complex is a foundry and gallery of a famous sculptor named Johnston who settled here many years ago. The bronzes are really a pleasure to see.

We left Lynard Cay on Friday and arrived in Hopetown that afternoon and took a mooring in the main harbor. What a beautiful spot, although quite crowded. This is the site of the most photographed lighthouse in the world! It is red & white striped and sited on top of a hill. We climbed it yesterday, the view was incredible. Well until the next time....

Ta Ta for now,
Jerry & Mary "Whisper"

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Our Seafaring Friends *continued*

Mary wants me to expand on the last 2 chronicles, her wish.... While we were at the ruins at Royal Island we toured the harbor in the dinghy and what a treat, we saw a lot of giant starfish, and even a hawksbill turtle. Now we had seen some green turtles while st anchor in G-town but this was a treat. Now I should tell you that it is legal to catch turtles here; but, I must say that we saw many turtles since we have been here, and I must confess that I had a turtle dinner just the other day. It was e

cellent, tasted just like chicken, or was it pork, maybe it was beef.

We also had a our own beautician groom us at the estate on Royal Island. It was the nicest surroundings we have ever had to have our hair cut. Looking out over the sound through the palm trees and chatting with the beautician, Ann, was a memory to be treasured. The ruins that I mentioned were hard to be believed, you could picture how they must have looked when they were in their prime. Limestone block walls that are 18" thick with imported tile floors; unfortunately, when the buildings were erected they didn't have treated wood and so the termites have had a field day. Almost all of the roofs have come down from the hungry little munchers.

Ta Ta for now, Jerry & Mary "Whisper"

We are alone in Marsh Harbour now, Len is flying out today to be at the funeral for Donna's brother who died on Wednesday. Ken & Ann havent returned yet and Len & Donna wont be back till Tuesday.

We went to Man-O-War yesterday and found it to be a nice place but very quiet. It is another dry island but since we were only there for 5 hours we didnt suffer any withdrawal symptoms. Very disappointed with the beach and the shelling, there werent any. The reef seems to stop anything except flotsam and jetsam, other words for junk. The houses were very picturesque and so we did!

The days are so nice that we hardly notice their passing. We went snorkeling at Mermaid Reef and took pictures of the fish with the underwater camera and are looking forward to returning and focusing the camera properly.

We will try again soon.

I have a conch shell that I am trying to turn into a horn and will then have to learn to blow. This is the second one that I have worked on, on the first I wasnt to good at removing the animal and attempts to clean it fell apart when it fell off the line it was tied to right into the water. The water in these harbors is not good to dive in so it stayed lost! This time I got the conch out cleanly and now I have to cut the end and then as Lauren Becall said "just blow".

Ta Ta for now, Jerry & Mary "Whisper"

We are on the move again, all back together again and in high spirits. The stay here has been enjoyable but it is now time to move on to the next spot Great Guana Cay! The winds are still 15-20 and out of the east and the seas are large! Hopefully the trip across will be ok. We had a gathering last night and played Farkle & Dominos until dark. Dinner was prepared on the grill with additions from each.

It is good to have everyone back together.

Ta Ta for now, Jerry & Mary "Whisper"

We are now moored at Fishers Bay on Great Guana Cay.

We arrived here on Sunday morning and immediately went ashore to Nippers. Nippers is a local institution. There is a wild pig roast held here every Sunday. But that is not the real reason to go there. It is the gathering place for all of the party types in the area, and the sight is incredible. The bikinis are many and varied as to their appropriateness for the wearer! There are a number of hard bellies for the ladies to compare. Occasionally there is the shifting of various parts of the skimpy attire. The music is extremely loud and the pace is definately young. Our ears & eyes were worn out and we only there for 2-3 hours! > We are leaving for Treasure Cay this morning, which is supposed to be a great resort. We understand that anchoring in the harbour will cost \$8 dollars a night, but that entitles you to the use of the facilities! Fresh water pool, showers etc. will be nice to luxuriate for a couple days. The wind is still in the 15-20 range and usually in the upper level; however, it is supposed to lower to the 15 area tomorrow. This is important because we will be going through the area known as the Whale which is an area where you have to proceed along the edge of the ocean in the surf. The distance is only about 3-4 miles but if there is what is called a rage running it can be downright hazardous. We do want the ocean to calm down when we go through that.

Ta Ta for now, > Jerry & Mary "Whisper"



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SPANISH WELLS

Easter holiday is over and it is celebrated for 4 days here and everywhere else in the Christian world almost except the US.

We took a high speed catamaran ferry to Harbour Island, home of the Pink Sands Beach, town of Dunsmore. Nassau to Spanish Wells only takes little over 2 hours.

Celebrated Easter - went to the Methodist Church. Felt like I was back in the 1950's. Had a communal Easter dinner, ham, two kinds of potatoes, lima beans, bread-fruit, and bread pudding with rum sauce on our boat. Delicious but full of carbs.

We are waiting on parts for Nimbus and trying once again to get our dinghy motor fixed.

When we leave here we will go 50 miles or so north to Little Harbor, Abacos.

Love, Donna and Leonard

Cork Board

Want ads, for sale ads or crew available or wanted, etc. should be sent to Tom Priest, at <bluesail@comcast.net>

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