
Mainsheet

Newsletter of the Delaware River Chapter, TSCA

June, 2006

Next Meeting:
Tuesday, June 5, 1900 at the
Cooper River Yacht Club. This
is the annual Pond Boat
Regatta.

The Pond Boat Regatta will be on the Cooper River, but the new radio control boats will also be there to be seen. Brad Linthicum is the sponsor. Should your RC boat leak it is not a severe problem, it can be bailed out using a turkey baster. It makes sense in the realm of scale, but old salts must be confused. How do you start up a good pumping chantey over operating a turkey baster?

Directions to the Cooper River YC:

From Philadelphia, take the Ben Franklin bridge into New Jersey. Once in New Jersey and on the east side of the Ben Franklin bridge, stay in the left hand lane and head toward Route 70 east. This will place you onto Admiral Wilson Blvd (Route 30 east). Stay in either of the two left lanes, heading toward Route 70, and you will go OVER a small overpass bridge. As soon as you get off of the overpass bridge, move to the right hand lane. You will be on Route 70 east. Stay on Route 70 east for approximately 2 miles and take the Cuthbert Blvd South exit (BEFORE the Hilton Hotel). Move into the center lane and cross over a small bridge, which spans a section of the Cooper River. Make the first right, as soon as you reach the end of the bridge and turn right onto South Park Drive (at the sign that says Camden County Parks). Follow South Park Drive for approximately six tenths of a mile to the COOPER RIVER YACHT CLUB, which will be on your right.

From South Jersey, take Route 168 (Black Horse Pike) or Route 30 (White Horse Pike) north to Route 130 north. After you pass the Collingswood Traffic Circle, stay in the right lane and exit to the right onto South Park Drive. The Cooper River Yacht Club will be approximately one mile ahead on your left.

From North Jersey, find your own way onto Route 130 south. When you reach the Pennsauken/Camden area, exit onto Route 70 east and follow the directions above.

For those of you technical types: www.cooperriveryc.org or for a GPS unit, the location is: *39°55.487 N. Latitude*
75°04.015 W. Longitude.

The July meeting will be at the Red Dragon, again. It will be a chantey sing on July 11. We need a volunteer to bring a grill, and someone to bring sodas. Pete's grill isn't up to the job. If you feel inclined, bring potluck deserts. The next day, Wednesday, July 12 is the Barnegat Bay Sail, starting at 1000. It is always a fine adventure.

The August meeting will be Phil Maynard talking on inboard motor installations; he knows what he is talking about.

September meeting will be planning for the Messabout, and October will be Paul Skalka speaking about wood and preserving it.

Notes From Cap'n Frank...

Spring has come and was enjoyed for the whole week. Then it appeared as if everything went straight into summer.

The Bid and Buy was a great success, netting \$903 which is a new record. The biggest item is a donated sailfish which joined Tom Shephard's collection. Paddles, tools, books, magazines, models were on the block, as well as some of the items that looked vaguely familiar, but that is another story. Remember, it's not too soon to start saving for next year's auction.

The club has several activities listed elsewhere in the Mainsheet, but I would like to make a pitch for many members to attend the John Gardner Small Craft Workshop at Mystic, Connecticut on June 3 and 4. Our chapter usually has a large contingent at this annual event. Mystic is a beautiful place with something for everyone, Great museum, beautiful downtown, lots of neat books and Mystic Mud Ice Cream. Camping can be very wet, but there is always the Joseph Conrad if you are a little deaf and don't mind the snoring. As in the past I will be staying at the Comfort Inn in Mystic. The Government rate is \$87 each night. I am a government worker, but they never asked for any proof. If you need a little break in New England,

nothing beats the sailing at Mystic. I hope to see everybody at our next meeting at the Cooper River.

Other Clubs:

Here is the ACA Schedule, sent by Marilyn Vogel:

May 20-21 Delaware Valley Divisional Championship. 5M Class racing on Saturday, ACA class races on Sunday. Union Lake, Millville, NJ 0900 Union Lake Sail and Tennis Club. Contact Marilyn Vogel skimmer@enter.net.

June 10 Lake Nockamixon, Quakertown, PA . Just sail for fun. Meet at the grassy area by Tohickon Boat Launch, 1100 Possible location for the Nationals. Contact Marilyn Vogel.

June 10 & 11, Sailing Workshop 1000 to 1600 Lake Sebago, Harriman State Park, Sloatsburg NY. An opportunity for novice and experienced sailors to give it a try. Sailing Canoes will be rigged and available to learn the techniques of cruising class sailing, using a paddle instead of a rudder. Sherrie Winkworth at dwinkworth@juno.com.

June 17, 1000 and 1400; June 18 at 1100. ACA class Divisional Championship at Lake Sebago. Mick Raffle at mickraffle@yahoo.com.

June 24 New England Division Championships Hopkinton Reservoir, Hopkinton Mass, Larry Haff, larryhaff@aol.com.

Frank and Dave, both members of the Liberty Sailing Club, told us a little about the way the club works. It is at 303 North Front Street, right underneath the Ben Franklin Bridge and is a golden opportunity for the "underboated." They have a fleet of J 22's which race on Wednesday and Thursdays, but are available to members on other times as well for cruising with a qualified skipper. Membership fees are reasonable for what they offer in the way of opportunities, and they keep the boats in the water for a long season.

Assateague Trip:

I had a "must not miss" commitment on the Saturday of Dave Soltesz's Assateague trip, but that didn't mean that I had to skip the trip; that special place is too important to me. I was able to talk John Guidera into coming down early with me on Thursday, April 20. We had glorious weather, setting our biggest sails, we explored the area north to the Verranzano bridge. For the two days, Thursday and Friday

we reveled in the beautiful weather while the weather report became more ominous for the days the regular gang would be there.

We were camped in the Bayside campground of the National Park and drew our boats up on the beach just north of the Campground. Friday the wind was stronger, maybe fifteen. I started with the biggest sail, but soon brought the boat ashore to trade for a smaller rig. One trouble of having lots of choice of different rigs is that you never have the right sail; some different rig would always be better than the one you have on at the moment.

Friday night we really snuggled down John's boat and loaded mine on its new trailer for an early start in the morning. Floyd Beam had arrived with his Balogh-rigged sea kayak towed behind his VW camperbus. Phil Maynard turned up late at night with his melonseed in the pickup bed and the brand new yellow WHISP loaded on top of the truck for a double layer effect. Rick Lathrop and Cheryl, hearing the grim weather report, left tent and boat behind and brought his popup camper instead. Dave and Lisa came complete with kayak and dogs; Missy and Sugarbaby.

Saturday, with help from Starbucks during the wetter weather, they learned about staying near home in the protected areas where there was enough lee to keep everybody at least safe if not dry. Sunday was much better, Phil was able to put his new sharpie through its paces.

In spite of the weather, everybody pronounced the trip an unqualified success and are ready to sign up again. Rain and wind bring out a different side of Assateague, but it is still magic in its windy starkness. I am very glad it was saved from development back in the sixties and preserved as a shallow draft cruising ground.

(Trip photos on page 3)

Trailer Class:

The Red Dragon meeting on May 2 was led by Rick Lathrop. He gave a tight and thorough class on trailer maintenance. He showed us the arcane world of castle nuts, bearing buddies, multimeters, continuity, dielectric grease, cotter pins, scissor jacks, and the wisdom of having an emergency toolbox and extra bearings. I came away grateful for the knowledge and determined to be more proactive in the future.

Assateague Photos:



Above, a yummy-looking "boat sandwich:" Phil Maynard's new Whisp lies atop his speedy red Melonseed. Below, John Guidera's Melonseed tucks into a sheltered cove.



Phil readies a reefed sail as John helps out. More photos in our Yahoo Group: TSCADeRiver.

MacGregors Meet at Union Lake:



Above left, proud builder Harold Bernard shows off his recently-completed MacGregor sailing canoe, along with no-less-proud Andy Slavinskis and his jib-rigged MacGregor. They met at Union Lake for a shakedown cruise of Harold's new boat. Below, some additional photos of Andy's boat and its beautiful, custom canvas decking, as well as a view of his narrow drydock (a center-city Philly apartment).



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Monthly Newsletter of the
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