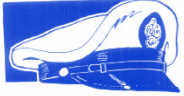


# BATTEN THE BREEZE



## Commodore's Corner

### Boat Surveying

As we enter into a new sailing season, most of us have retrieved our boats from one storage area or another. Generally speaking, most boats sit idly all winter on their trailers until the promise of spring. I recently picked my boat up at the Butler Fair Grounds and immediately found that the electrical system on the trailer was not working correctly. It was a simple fix, a matter of cleaning the connectors on the trailer and replacing a bad bulb. Certainly one would not want to go on a state highway and receive a ticket for lights not working properly. But really, there is more to trailering a boat than just the lighting. Making sure that the trailer coupler locks on the hitch ball should be the concern of anybody who is towing a trailer. Checking to see that the safety chains are properly crossed and secured is equally important.

This only gets you to the lake. What about the boat itself? Even though you are anxious to get out for that first sail, take the time to do an inspection of your boat and plan for any repairs that may be needed. There are a few key items that should warrant your attention.

Thoroughly inspect the gel coat. Perhaps over the winter something has fallen on the boat and cracked the gel coat which would let water penetrate and delaminate the fiberglass, or even worse, rot out the wooden core.

Closely examine the rigging for kinks and meat hooks (broken strands of wire braid). Kinks will eventually lead to failure which could possibly allow your mast to fall.

Check the bottom of your mast for signs of mushrooming and cracking. This could be caused by your standing rigging being too loose, which would allow your mast much more movement when tacking.

Certainly there are many more items that could be checked thoroughly and more frequently than once a year. There are many excellent reference books

available that can give you more detail for ongoing inspection and maintenance. The larger the boat, the more complex the survey will be. Over the winter I read, "Inspecting the Aging Sailboat," by Don Casey. I found this book to be very informative and to the point. Although it is basically geared toward bigger boats, the information contained in it can apply to almost any boat.

I believe that thorough inspection of your boat or one that you may be thinking of buying is time well spent. It can prevent many problems reduce your frustration and help you to have a more enjoyable season.

By Carl Suppo

### SUMMER 2006 SCHEDULE

- June 5, 2006, Board Meeting at Kings, Bridgeville
- June 17-18 Family Weekend at the Lake
- June 17 MSC picnic
- July 3, 2006, Board Meeting at Kings, Bridgeville
- July 4 Flying Scot Regatta at the Point
- July 15-16 Family Weekend at the Lake
- July 17-21 Sailing Camp
- July 22-23 SailAway Weekend
- July 22 Community Sailing Program activities, informal racing
- July 22 MSC picnic
- July 23 SailAway picnic at Watts Bay
- Aug. 4, 2006, Board Meeting, Kings, Bridgeville
- Aug. 5-6 Regatta at Lake Arthur - open to everyone
- Aug 19-20 Family Weekend at the Lake
- Aug 20 MSC picnic at Watts Bay

FOR SALE: CATALINA 25' Sailboat (1979) White w/ Blue Trim. Traditional Catalina quality and comfort; boat very well maintained and ready to sail. Sails newly reconditioned, motor overhauled & trailer serviced. Contact: Troy Cain at 412-835-5237, [troysail@adelphia.net](mailto:troysail@adelphia.net)



### Looking Out for MSC Members

A tip of the hat to:

**Doug Burke:** for all of the towing, storing and help with the MSC boats. Doug is located at 223 West Park Road, Portersville, PA 724-368-3004

**Wind and Water:** for all of your contributions to the club and extremely reasonable rates for all of the work you have done on our boats. (thanks Paul!) Wind and Water is located just 8 mi. south of Butler on Rt.8 (Pittsburgh Rd.) and can be reached at 1-800-289-8097

**Dale Hinds Auto Sales** 1234 Perry Hwy, Portersville, PA 724-368-8292 came to Wolf's rescue over the holiday weekend and did an immediate repair at an excellent price (less than 25% of what he was quoted by his regular repair place)

**"Wink"** Davis Hollow Marina's own "outboard guru". Wink works for the Marina and repairs outboards on his off days from the marina. He's done countless repairs of outboards for MSC members and is always available at Davis Hollow.

If you know someone or a company who clearly deserves a tip of the hat for extraordinary work, please let us know and we will be happy to share the information.

### FLYING SCOOT FLEET SCHEDULE:

June 17-18	Berlin, OH
July 4 <sup>th</sup>	3 Rivers Regatta, Pittsburgh (non district event)
July 9--14	North American Championship (NAC), Marblehead MA
July 29-30	Sandy Douglass, Deep Creek YC, MD
September 2--4	Labor Day
September 9--10	Atwood - Ohio District Championship 2006
September 16-17	Lake Arthur; Sail for the Grail
September 23-24	Cowan Lake, OH

### BUTLER OUTDOOR CLUB EXTRAVAGANZA

This annual event is staged to introduce their member to different outdoor sports such as rock climbing, kayaking and, with the help of MSC, sailing. We are grateful to Ken Andres, Dan Goldberg and Wolf and Joy Goethert for giving up part of their Memorial Day weekend to take out in their keelboat and Flying Scots more than 30 members of the Outdoor club. The weather and winds were perfect on the Saturday whilst Sunday was hotter with holes in the light winds. The youngest sailor was 8 and will probably come to our sail Camp, some of the older ones may join MSC after taste the peace of transportation without pollution. By John Bridges

## Restoration of South Coast 56

As many of you know, Joe Shields purchased a South Coast 23 in May 2003. The boat was sitting at Wind & Water looking for someone to restore her and Joe took the bait. The boat had been all but scuttled by an unknown prior owner but Joe's foresight and intuition about this particular boat was her saving grace.

Joe has been keeping a photo log of his progress with her from the time he was first looking at her until now. This photo log can be seen at <http://shieldssoft.com/sc23/sc23.html>. When you look at the condition this boat was in less than three years ago and compare them with the most recent pictures, you understand that the labor of love which makes a 'good old boat' a treasure was put to the test.

Joe has yet to put her new name on her but we suspect he is saving that as the crowning glory for this lady who he has restored to beauty. He very proudly sails her from her mooring and gladly shares a sail with all those who ask him..



## RACING RESULTS

### FLYING SCOTS

	Boat #	Name	Avg Finish	# Races	6-May			13-May		20-May		
					#1	#2	#3	#1	#2	#1	#2	#3
1	5071	Gelman	1.40	5	1	1	1	3	1			
2	4269	Uelhing	2.00	3						4	1	1
3	200	Cullen	2.33	3	2	3	2					
4	4601	Zavos	2.38	8	3	2	3	1	4	1	2	3
5	3700	Bishop	2.50	2				2	3			
6	2148	Ingersoll	3.00	4					2	3	3	4
7	3708	Madxlenka	3.67	3						5	4	2
8	3637	Persi	4.20	5				4	5	2	5	5
	3714	Hart								RC	RC	RC
	4114	Suppo										
	4340	Marshall										
	4991	Goldberg								RC	RC	RC
	4233	Goethert			RC	RC	RC	RC	RC	RC	RC	RC

### OPEN CLASS

	Boat Numbr	Name	Avg Finish	# Races	6-May			13-May	
					#1	#2	#3	#1	#2
1	180	Harlan	2	2				2	2
2	152969	Juan	1	2				1	1
3	6	Shields	3.5	2	DNF	DNF		4	3
4	1461	Hastings	3.5	2				3	4
5	80232	Kaiser	5	1					5

## **LEARN TO RACE PROGRAM FOR 2006**

Our Learn to Race program last year proved very successful, so we are running it again this year. It is intended for new or inexperienced people that want to learn more about racing, and participate in some practice races in a non-competitive environment to get a feel for what racing is all about, and also have some fun!

This year's dates are: June 17, July 15, August 12, 2006.

We will start the program at 10:30 each day. You can bring your own boat, or reserve a Community Sailing boat if you belong to the Community Sailing Program. The reservation system is on the MSC website. If don't have a boat, or don't belong to the CSP, want to crew, or just want to try it, just show up! We will try our best to get everyone into a boat.

Each day's schedule is as follows: All boats should be launched and ready to sail by 10:30. We will begin each day with a short orientation at the MSC shed at the Watts Bay launch ramp. Then we will have some practice starts and some short practice races each day. Finally we will have a debriefing over lunch at 12:30.

We selected this year's schedule to coincide with our regular MSC club races in the afternoon those same days. So you can sail again in the afternoon and watch the "real" races. Or maybe you can even hitch a ride with a regular MSC racer!

This year's program will be run by Dan Goldberg, the current Flying Scot Fleet Champion and last year's winner of the Sail for the Grail. Dan is also a certified US Sailing Race Officer. He brings a wealth of experience, race management knowledge, and training ability to our program. Assisting Dan will be Jon Hart and Wolf Goethert, two of our experienced racers.

## **ATTENTION MSC RACERS**

This year's Learn to Race program is scheduled for the mornings of May 20, June 17, July 15, and August 12. On those days,

our regular MSC club races will be held at 1:30 PM. We intentionally selected those dates to coincide with MSC club race dates so that experienced skippers AND CREW can help the Learn to Race boats by participating as coaches. So we encourage you to come to the lake by 10:30 AM on race days and go out on a Learn to Race boat. (We'll match up experienced racers with the Learn to Race boats.) Then we'll all have lunch at 12:30, and start the club races at 1:30.

Since you will be coming to the lake those days anyhow, please come in the morning to help our Learn to Race folks! Some of our racers participated last year and found it to be a very rewarding experience. And the Learn to Race folks will greatly appreciate your advice!

## **2006 Family Weekends**

This year we started something new: Family Weekends at the lake. We have the Cabin at Davis Hollow reserved for one weekend every month ( posted on the calendar ). The April weekend was so cold, the cabin sat empty. Ken Andrew's braved the weather in May and discovered that there was a group who was camping outside on the platform that weekend. The cabin is charming and equipped with a full kitchen, fireplace and plenty of comfortable sleeping quarters. This is a first come/ first served basis ( we have no way to take "reservations" so come early. ) There is always a tent platform to use if you like sleeping out with the amenities of a cabin close by. We have gotten this reserved for one entire weekend every month for members of MSC to use so please come up and take advantage of the "home away from home" for the weekend. For those of you who have discovered that you have to rent a cabin at Moraine 11 months in advance to get one, you know what a deal this is since it is at no cost to MSC members.