

Batten the Breeze

Newsletter of Moraine Sailing Club

January 2006

SAILING INTO 2006

This year promises to be a busy year for Moraine Sailing Club with many additions to the schedule. With the active inclusion of many new members and newsailors to the club, it became clear to the board that we needed to add programs suited to the requests for "more to do".

This season will offer:

- Family Weekends at the Lake (accommodations at Davis Hollow Cabin for the entire weekend for those attending)
- Sailing Camp for junior members
- Learn to Sail days
- Learn to Race days
- Racing, both for fun and for scores
- Picnics, picnics, picnics!
- Sail Away weekend
- US Sailing Training for sailing instructors
- Build-a-boat training
- Boat surveying and training
- Spring Fling
- Fall Banquet

The calendar of events is part of this newsletter. Please post it where you can see it and plan your schedule to do everything you can with this year!

BTB CHANGES IN 2006

The cost of producing and mailing Batten the Breeze has become utterly prohibitive which has mandated some changes. Beginning in March, 2006, the BTB will be published on line at the MSC website and you will be notified by email that it is ready to read as soon as it is posted. WE MUST HAVE A GOOD EMAIL ADDRESS FOR EVERYONE WHO HAS ONE! Please email me with your current email to: figgenshu@yahoo.com The trade off is that we will have color pictures, more information and it will be published 10 months a year with intervening information published as needed. This will be the FINAL issue which will be mailed to your home unless you call Jackie Stevens, Editor of the BTB at 412 795-0623 and specifically request a copy be mailed to you.

Commodore's Corner

January 2, 2006

Here we are, a brand new year. I hope all of you had a wonderful holiday and I wish all a happy new year.

This past year saw the beginning of some new programs in the club. Your participation as a club member certainly helped to make these successful. We will try and expand on these ideas, and bring the club close together as a unit, rather than individual entities. In the evolution of things it is necessary for some old ways of doing things to take a back seat in order to try some new ideas. I have always thought that we were lacking in an intermediate program for newbies. Hence, a learn-to-race program. This was a great way to bring along some beginner sailors from the basic to a more structured and intensive program. I was always told that by trying racing, the sailor improves the ability to adjust weight, trim sails and balancing the boat. This makes for a better cruiser, a faster racer and a more confident sailor.

Our learn-to-race program this year was chaired by Rich O'Brien. He did a magnificent job. However, Rick is going to leave us, as he is moving out of the area. We will be very fortunate that the program will be chaired by Dan Goldberg this coming year. Dan brings a wealth of sailing and racing experience and I am sure he will do an excellent job.

Sail camp was also an outstanding success. Thanks to Joe Shields, Barb Keiser, our seven new instructors, and all of the volunteers. The program week was extended by a new addition called Family weekend. The intention of these additional two days was to let the parent experience what the children had learned, meet with the instructors and generally have a good time. This was the brainchild of Jackie Stevens and she did such a great job. This year we have a family weekend planned each month. The Family weekends will be for all club members, not just parents and children who were in the learn-to-sail program. So mark your calendars and plan to attend. It's a great relaxing way to make new acquaintances and talk sailing. We will have the log cabin available at Davis Hollow Marina, and also tent space will be available.

So for the next couple months, help to pass the cold weather by dreaming of sailing, attending our winter seminars, and planning for all of the activities that will be offered.

Fair winds and smooth sailing,

Carl Suppo

Season's Grand Finale

Last Sunday, the day after the MSC Fall Banquet, I was determined to get another go on the MX-Ray. Temps were in the upper 50s and periods of drizzle alternated with grey skies. NOAA called for 10-20 knots with gusts of up to 34 knots. In typical Lake Arthur fashion, winds oscillated between 3 and 30+ knots. For the most part winds averaged around 15 and up. On my Ray, such conditions call for nimble knees and heavy hiking at split second's notice.

SW winds before an approaching cold front bring breezes in four flavors:

USSAILING INSTRUCTION OFFERED BY JOE SHIELDS

SUN January 22, 1:30-5PM at Northland Library, Teaching/Coaching Fundamentals for Sailing Great stuff for improving your teaching/presentation skills (part of the U.S. Sailing Instructor series -- important for Sailing Instructor candidates to attend since they will be expected to incorporate the material into short [3-5 min] presentations in the later seminars thus fulfilling a course requirement. Also for registered Sailing Instructor candidates there is a written test on the material which will be administered on SUN March 26.)

SUN February 12, 1:30-5PM at Northland Basic/Advanced Sailing Topics Seminar presented by Joe Shields (part of the U.S.

Sailing Instructor series. For registered Sailing Instructor candidates there is a written test on the material which will be administered on SUN March 26)

SUN February 19, 1:30-5PM at Northland Library, Learn To Sail Seminar presented by Joe Shields and participating Sailing Instructor candidates. (For the beginner Sailors)

SUN February 26, 1:30-5PM at Northland Library Learn To Race Sailboats Seminar presented by Dan Goldberg. (For the beginning racers and anyone interested in learning more about racing sailboats)

SUN March 05, 1:30-5PM at Northland Library, USCG Boating Basics Seminar presented by Joe Shields (part of the U.S. Sailing Instructor series. For registered Sailing Instructor candidates there is a written test on the material which will be administered on SUN March 26).

SUN March 19, 1:30-5PM at Northland Library, Powerboat Basics -- with special emphasis on effective Safety Boat operation at sailing events -- presented by Joe Shields and participating Sailing Instructor candidates (part of the U.S. Sailing Instructor series. For registered Sailing Instructor candidates there is a written test on the material which will be administered on SUN March 26.)

SUN March 26, 1:30-5PM at Northland Library, Review/Exams for Sailing Instructor candidates only.

Seminars are free and open to all. Written tests and on-the-water portion of the U.S. Sailing Instructor course will only be open to registered Sailing Instructor candidates (experienced MSC members who pay a (discounted) \$100 fee to U.S. Sailing with MAIL-IN application found at:
http://ussailing.org/training/corinthian/sb_instructor.htm

[if you are interested in registering as a Sailing Instructor candidate and/or have questions call Joe Shields at 412-367-3697])

Moraine Sailing Club 2006 Calendar

Jan. 3 articles for BTB due
Jan 9, 2006 Board meeting

Feb 12 Basic/Advanced Sailing Topics Review
Feb. 20 Board meeting
Feb. 19 1:00 p.m. Learn to Sail (SI course) Northland
Library
Feb. 26 1:00 p.m. Learn to Race at Northland Library
March 3 Articles for BTB due
Mar 05 Boating Basics (with Joe Shields)
March 20 Board meeting
Mar 19th - Basic Sailboat Rescue using Powerboats - in
charge - Joe
April 3 Articles for BTB due
April 9 1:00 p.m. Learn to Sail at Westinghouse
April 17 Board meeting
April 15 9:00 a.m. Barn Date
April 15-16 Family weekend at the Lake (accommodations:
Davis Hollow Cabin)
April 22 9:00 a.m. Barn Date
April 29 Spring Fling.. Pittsburgh Rowing Club time TBA
May 3 Articles for BTB due
May 6 Sat Regular Series Races
May 15 Board meeting
May 13 Sat Regular Series Races
May 20-21 Family Weekend at the Lake
May 20 Learn to Race" Series -- 10:30 AM start at Watts
May 20 Regular Series Races - 1:30 PM start
May 27 No races - Memorial Day Weekend
June 3 Articles for BTB due
June 3 Regular Series Races
June 10 Regular Series Races
June 19 Board meeting
June 17-18 Family Weekend at the Lake
June 17 Learn to Race Series -- 10:30 AM start at Watts
June 17 MSC picnic
June 24 9:00 a.m. midsummer boat survey (at Watts)
June 24 Regular Series Races
June 25 10:00 a.m. Learn to Race at Watts Bay
July 3 Articles for BTB due
July 1 No MSC races
July 4 Flying Scot Regatta at the Point
July 8 Regular Series Races

July 15-16 Family Weekend at the Lake
 July 15 Learn to Race 10:30 AM at Watts
 July 17 Board meeting
 July 17-21 Sailing Camp
 July 22-23 SailAway Weekend
 July 22 Community Sailing Program activities, informal racing
 July 22 MSC picnic
 July 23 10: a.m. Learn to Race at Watts Bay
 July 23 SailAway picnic at Watts
 July 29 Regular Series Races
 Aug. 3 Articles for BTB due
 Aug. 5-6 Regatta at Lake Arthur - open to everyone
 Aug. 12 Regular Series Races
 August 21 Board meeting
 August 19-20 Family Weekend at the Lake
 August 19 Learn to Race Series 10:30 AM start at Watts
 August 20 MSC picnic at Watts
 August 26 Regular Series Races
 August 27 Learn to Race at Watts Bay
 Labor Day weekend No races
 Sept 3 Article for BTB due
 Sept 9 Regular Series Races
 Sept. 18 Board meeting
 Sept 15 Sail for Grail Weekend/ Family weekend
 Sept 16-17 Sail for the Grail - Flying Scot regatta
 Sept. 17 MSC picnic at Watts
 Sept. 23 Regular Series Races
 Sept. 30 Champion of Champions regatta Lake Arthur
 Oct. 3 Articles for BTB due
 Oct. 16 Board meeting
 Oct. 14 9:00 a.m. Boat survey and barn date
 Oct. 21 10:00 a.m . Barn date
 Nov. 20 Board meeting
 Nov. 18th Fall Banquet
 Dec. 3 Article for BTB due

WANNARACE?

The 2005 sailing season saw the introduction of **“Learn to Race”** which was a highly successful program. Since this was so well received, we are going to do this again. We will need members to help teach in the Learn to Race program. The **director of the program for this year is Dan Goldberg**. Please contact him to let him know your availability for this program. Racers, please consider this your chance to train the next group of competitors and sharpen your own skills in the process. The planned racing schedule appears on the last page of the BTB. Dates for Learn to Race are on the calendar.

SAILINGCAMP2006

Sailing Camp for 2006 is being organized. We presently have seven U.S. Sailing certified sailing instructors who are members of MSC and more are being trained this spring. The MSC Sailing Camp for 2005 had to turn away campers because we simply did not have enough boats or instructors to handle the tremendous number of campers who wanted to join us.

The Sail Camp offers 5 days of hands on sailing instruction (and YES, you WILL be in a boat and sailing the first day!) culminating in a sail to Lake View Beach on Friday of Sail Camp week. There is camping on site for campers and their parents. Each year the number of campers grows. Be sure to look for the application for sailing camp on the website and get it completed and mailed in as soon as you can.

FALLBANQUET

Oh was this a grand banquet! The Sailor's Auction brought out the best in everyone. Special thanks go to West Marine, Wind'n-Water, Flying Scot and North Sails for the wonderful prizes you provided. Thank you also to all of our members who so generously gave of their time and talents for prizes, centerpieces, organization, direction, help of every imaginable kind and for being there to celebrate the year.

We couldn't forget to thank the O'Brien's for the *incredible* handcrafted awards! The consensus of the club members was that these were prizes to hold memories for years to come with one glorious glance. Thank you very much!

BANQUETAUCTIONWINNERS

Action Item	Winner	Donated By
Sailing Coloring Books	Susan Hayden, Sheila Bridges	Chris Neuwirth
Sailing Book	Susan Hayden	Chris Neuwirth
Framed Sailing Print	Jackie Stevens	Pam Lewis & Dan Goldberg
Life Vest	Gerrit Brandt	Wind'n Water Boatworks
Uncle Charlie's Sausage Gift Certificate	Bill Tingler	Fran and Charlie Armitage
Point of Pittsburgh Sailing Poster	Chris Neuwirth	Joe Kirk
North Sails Goodies	Alice Uehling	North Sails
Handmade Quilted Wall Hanging	Henry Uehling	Joy Goethert
Stained Glass Sailboat	Carol Walker	Chris Neuwirth
Boater's Goodies Basket	Joan Reis	West Marine
Handmade Tote Bag	Gerri Brandt	Lois Suppo
Nautical Corkscrew and Wallet	Chris Neuwirth	Dan Goldberg
Sailing Reference Book	Chris Neuwirth	Jackie Stevens
Nautical Water Glasses	Karen Andrews	Sheila and John Bridges
Hand Made Wood Carvings	Jackie Stevens	John Bridges
Flying Scot Hats	Lois Suppo	Marianne Krouk and Jon Hart
Sea of Glory Book	Gerri Goclan	Gerry Brandt
Captain Ron DVD	Ken Andrews	Gerrit Brandt

2006 RACING SCHEDULE

Month	Day	Note	EventDescription	
May	6Sat	1	RegularSeriesRaces	
	13Sat	1	RegularSeriesRaces	
	20Sat	2	""LearntoRace""Series--10:30AMstart	rt;"
	27Sat		RegularSeriesRaces-1:30PMstart Noraces-MemorialDayWeekend	
June	3Sat	1	RegularSeriesRaces	
	10Sat	1	RegularSeriesRaces	
	17Sat	2	""LearntoRace""Series--10:30AMstart	rt;"
	24Sat	1	RegularSeriesRaces-1:30PMstart	
July	1Sat	3	"NoMSCRaces-7/4""FlyingScotRega	ttaatthePoint""
	8Sat	1	RegularSeriesRaces	
	15Sat	2	""LearntoRace""Series--10:30AMstart	rt;"
	22Sat	4	RegularSeriesRaces-1:30PMstart	
	29Sat	4	"CommunitySailingProgramactivities,in	formalracing"
August	5Sat	1	RegularSeriesRaces	
	12-13	5	RegattaatLakeArthur-opentoeveryone	
	19Sat	2	""LearntoRace""Series--10:30AMstart	rt;"
	26Sat	1	RegularSeriesRaces-1:30PMstart	
September	2Sat		RegularSeriesRaces	
	9Sat	1	Noraces-LaborDay	
	16-17	6	RegularSeriesRaces	
	23Sat	1	""SailfortheGrail""-FlyingScotregata	tta"
	30Sat	7	RegularSeriesRaces	
			""ChampionofChampions""regatta"	
		Notes		
	1	RegularSeriesracesopentoallMSCracingand	CommunitySailing	
		Programmembers.Thefirstracestartsatsat10:30AM	.Therewillbea	
		maximumof3races.		
	2	"The""LearntoRace""Seriesisintendedfori	nexperiencedracing	
		skippers.PleaseRSVPtotheRaceDirectoratleas	toneweekbefore	
		theevent.NofeeforMSCmembers;aclubboatwil	lbeprovided.See	
		websiteforfurtherdetails."		
		RegularSeriesracesopentoallMSCracingand	CommunitySailing	
		Programmembers.Thefirstracestartsatsat1:30PM.	Therewillbea	
		maximumof2races.		
	3	FlyingScotregattaawayfromLakeArthur;not	aClubevent.	
	4	"See""BattentheBreeze""formoredetails.A	llMSCmembersand	
		non-membersencouragedtoparticipate."		
	5	ParkeventwithMSCracecommittee.Notparto	ftheracingseries;	
		opentothepublic.Seeflyerorwebsiteformore	information.	
	6	"FlyingScotregattaatLakeArthur,Saturdaya	ndSunday.No	
		open-classracing."		
	7	OpenregattaforMSCracingandnon-racingmemb	ers.Portsmouth	
		Handicapscoreing.Saturdayonly;thefirstrace	artsat10:30.	
		TheRegularSeriesincludesupto38raceson14	days.	