



BATTEN THE BREEZE

Moraine Sailing Club Newsletter

May/June 1999

MSC Bids Farewell to Mike Higgins in Memorial Race

On May 8th, a special race in honor of Mike Higgins, who passed away on May 2nd, was run at the request of, and with the participation of Mike Higgins' family. With Vivian and other members of the Higgins clan gathered aboard the Committee boat, daughter Jami and son Tom raced their father's boat (FS 3700 with the familiar shamrocks on her bow), leading other MSC racers "around the buoys". A fitting tribute to a man, 18 years a member of MSC, who first sailed as an 8 year old with his dad.

After receiving his Masters degree in 1968, Mike established a successful career in Recreational Therapy, serving with the Veteran's Administration for many years. Perhaps in part due to the knowledge gained from working in the field of recreation, Mike always appreciated the value of sailing in providing quality family time activities. Before his recent illness, whether aboard catamaran,



Mike Higgins Family Leads Memorial Race

Buccaneer, ice boat, or Flying Scot, Mike Higgins and family were "always there", pitching in (Mike served as Flying Scot Fleet Captain in 96-97, Vivian has been a "regular" serving on race committee duty), enjoying the camaraderie of fellow sailors. He will be missed at MSC.

Farewell Mike, until we meet again at that last windward mark.

Exciting Time at Spring Fling 99

The Oakmont Yacht Club along the Allegheny River was the outstanding location of the Spring Fling for the second consecutive year. Attendees arrived and sat themselves at tables arranged around the nicely appointed parquet floor. The old timers quickly spotted the familiar supermarket plastic bags holding the instruments of the evenings activities and went to work.

While some people wandered around the room and socialized, others were busy constructing their model racing sailboats. Soon the dinner buffet arrived and many got up to get their food. Others continued to work on their project. Even the newcomers finally found out the venue without any formal announcements.

Shortly after dinner Commodore Joe Shields introduced the evenings keynote speaker, Erik Goethert. He was on his way between racing engagements in Argentina, California, and Spain. Erik told the story of his lifelong sailing experiences and how he came to be an Olympic hopeful with partner Mike Ingham in the Tornado class.

Erik showed slides and explained the mechanics of sailing this large, fast catamaran. He went over details of assembling the boat each time he traveled to another regatta. Erik has excelled in sailing in a wide variety of small dingies but has only been sailing the Tornado for a few years. In spite of this, Erik and Mike are generally ranked as one of the top four US Tornado teams fighting for a trip to the Sidney 2000 Olympics.

By racing with many of the Worlds finest sailors in a variety of settings Erik and Mike have made tremendous improvements in their

(Continued on page 6)

UPCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS

June 5

Spinnaker Clinic

June 26

Women's Sunfish Regatta

July 31

Davis Marina Regatta

August 21

"Corn Roast" Social

August 28,29

Regatta at Lake Arthur

September 25,26

"Sail for The Grail"

November 13

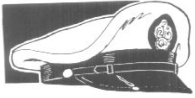
Fall Banquet

Moraine Sailing Club's Annual Hot and Cool Social

Saturday June 5th, 1999 at 4:00PM

Davis Hollow Marina Restaurant
featuring Chili, Ice Cream, Corn
Bread, Cole Slaw and Pop

RSVP: Lou Ann Shields
(412) 367-3697 by June 1st
Cost: \$7.00 per person



Commodore's Corner

Promoting Sailing in Western Pennsylvania

Once upon a time there was a young person living in Western Pa. who was interested in a wide variety of things that he didn't especially know a lot about. He decided to join clubs that promoted these interests of his. First he joined an Astronomy club. He paid the dues, received newsletters, and ... that was about it. When it came time to renew his membership, he declined. He then ran across a Moraine Sailing Club brochure and decided to clip the coupon and send for more information. Within a few days, he received a phone call from a member of the club inviting him to go sailing. He gratefully accepted, and ... that has made all the difference. Fourteen years later, while not so young anymore, I am still a member

of Moraine Sailing Club.

We can send out brochures and newsletters to would be sailing enthusiasts (and maybe even fill our coffers with their dues), but the only way to really help them discover sailing, is to get them out on a boat with a tiller in their hand.

Each year, MSC gets requests for information about sailing from people who are interested enough to contact us. Let's make sure they get more than just "reading material" to help them make up their minds about sailing.

In talking to many of you, I know you are willing to help. Take a minute to fill in the following check boxes as they apply to you and forward the information to me. With the resulting membership/prospect database we will be better able to match new and

prospective members who have with members willing to help.

If you are getting this newsletter as a new member or someone interested in sailing, let us know how we can help you.

I have a need: I am a resource:

- I would like to experience sailing for the first time
- I can help in providing this
- I would like to get some informal sailing instruction
- I can help in providing this
- I would like to experience racing as extra crew during a race
- I can help in providing this
- I would like to get some informal racing instruction
- I can help in providing this

Also: If there are any MSC members interested in becoming U.S. Sailing certified instructors, please contact me. Depending on interest, we are looking at the possibility of bringing a U.S. Sailing instructor trainer to Moraine State Park in the near future.

Thanks,
Joe Shields (412-367-3697)

MSC Welcomes New Members

Craig Hollbrook
Bethel Park, PA 15102

Jacques Parker
Pittsburgh, PA 15216

Youssef and Ounissa Kadri
Pittsburgh, PA 15217

Daniel and Trisha Stivers
Slippery Rock, PA 16057

Devin and Shannon Mc Granahan
Pittsburgh, PA

Connie White
Pittsburgh, PA 15202

Larry and Anna O'Toole
Finleyville, PA 15332

Batten the Breeze Publication Schedule

(deadline/distribution)

Jul/Aug (Jul 9/Jul 19)

Sep/Oct (Sep 10/Sep 20)

Nov/Dec (Oct 29/Nov 13)

Submissions should be by E-mail to
zavosrj@ch.etn.com



Moraine Sailing Club
P.O. Box 692
Pittsburgh, PA 15230

Visit us on the Web at — (NOTE: new address!)

<http://www.morainesailingclub.net>

E-mail: morainesailing@geocities.com

Commodore	J. Shields	412-367-3697	jshields@post-gazette.com
Vice-Commodore	G. Brandt	412-488-0803	gbrandt@bellatlantic.net
Secretary	J. Tomal	412-833-3816	jtomal@sei.cmu.edu
Treasurer	C. Marlin	412-828-8598	bigfish1@diamond.nb.net
Ex-Officio	G. Madzelonka	412-963-8735	KennedyKS@MSX.UPMC.EDU
Race Director	T. Hohler	412-279-8572	thomas.hohler@mindspring.
Community Sail.	D. Bishop	412-749-1195	bishop@maya.com

BTB Newsletter	B. Zavos	412-241-0659	zavosrj@ch.etn.com
Race/Seminars	W. Goethert	412-731-1640	wbg@sei.cmu.edu
Web/Tech. Sup.	D. Gelman	412-521-6242	dgelman@sgi.net
Comm./Youth	J. Starr	724-935-1987	James_E_Starr@dlc.dqe.com
Property	J. Hauser	412-278-0679	jhauser4@aol.com
Membership	B.H.-Larman	724-934-1272	bhlarman@juno.com
Publicity	B. Jarold	412-931-0905	bjarold@bellatlantic.net

Butler Outdoor Club Extravaganza

This year's event will be held at the Rose Point Campground on Memorial Day weekend, May 29th, 30th, and 31st. There are 5 reserved sites and more are available. Camping Fees are \$10 individual or \$30 family per night. Activity fees will be \$5 per adult per day. Check in Friday night in time for a welcome wiener roast. Saturday will feature beginning sailing by the Moraine Sailing Club, mountain biking, and canoeing. Saturday night features a speaker and a pig roast. Sunday activities include a pontoon boat ride, canoeing, road biking, and horseback riding. Monday includes a beginner caving trip and instruction near Laurel Caverns. For additional information or to register call Joyce Appel at 724-526-5407.

Spinnaker Clinic Returns June 5th

By popular demand, we will conduct a Spinnaker Clinic on June 5 right after lunch at the Watts Bay Docks. (This is the day of the Hot and Cool Social, so you get two events for the price of one!) Dan Goldberg, Joni Reis, and Missy Hare will go over the basics and show a little more advanced stuff. If you weren't able to attend last year, here is your chance to find out how to get along with your spinnaker.

Women's Sunfish Regatta June 26

Our third annual MSC Women's Sunfish Regatta will be held on Saturday, June 26th, as part of Championship Day 6. The club has six Sunfish and AYH will participate with four more. We also can use a few more from other MSC members. To lend a Sunfish, reserve a Sunfish, or register with your Sunfish please call Sara Zavos at 412-241-0659.



GO SAIL weekend, June 26 & 27

This is a national event sponsored by U.S. Sailing. Participants are provided with an introduction to sailing for a \$10 donation to benefit Leukemia Research. MSC is teaming up with Wind & Water, and Crescent Bay Boat Rental. If you would like to help, or would like to GO SAIL! contact Joe Shields (412-367-3697) for more information.

Help Wanted - Property Manager

Our property person, John Hauser, is leaving the Pittsburgh area. We need your help in filling this important position which involves our motor boats, pontoon boat, and racing equipment. Contact Gerry Brandt (VC and Chair Nominating Committee) at (412) 488-0803 {voice or fax at the beep, there is no outgoing message} or by e-mail gbrandt@bellatlantic.net.

Hike/Sail & Bike/Sail on August 21st

The Sierra Club will lead a hike at Moraine State Park and the Western PA Wheelman's will lead a bike ride in the park. They will both join the Moraine Sailing Club for an afternoon sail. Many will also join us for the Corn Roast. This is a great opportunity to meet new people and exchange club information. Anyone interested in attending one of the events or offering to take people out on your boat, please contact Becky Jarold at 412-931-0905.

The Regatta at Lake Arthur

The Butler County Tourist Promotion Agency will sponsor "The Regatta at Lake Arthur" on August 28th and 29th. Activities will include boat rides, live entertainment, fireworks, kites, hot air balloon rides, a parade of lights, anything floats event, antique boat parade, antique car show, Osprey Cruises, children activities, and a volleyball tournament. Safety demonstrations and races are scheduled on both days for sailboats, kayaks, canoes, and shell boats with a bridge to bridge sailboat race on Sunday. For more information contact Becky Jarold at 412-931-0905 or Joe Shields at 412-367-3697.

Chesapeake Sailing

Last call for Chesapeake Bay sailing event. Reservations must be made soon. Currently, there are about 10 potential participants. The cost of the charter (not including security deposit, food, fuel, docking fees, etc.) will be about \$300 per person. The dates are October 15th, 16th, and 17th. Contact Sean Marshall at 412-921-4431 for more information.



Lake Erie Crew Needed

North Hills Resident Dave Kahley writes: I am crewing on a 50' racing boat from the Erie Yacht Club. The boat is in need of more crew who can regularly attend weekend races. Do you know someone that is interested in large boat racing and wants to share some driving? Call Dave at 814-696-9380 or send email to dkahley@allegheny.org

Classified Ads

Highlander class sailboat. 20 ft. dark blue fiberglass hull, white deck, two sets of working sails, spinnaker, cover, trailer @ \$1950. Contact Jim Starr at 724-935-1987.

Snark Sailboats (two); 11 foot, car topable @ \$200 each. Contact Jim Starr at 724-935-1987.

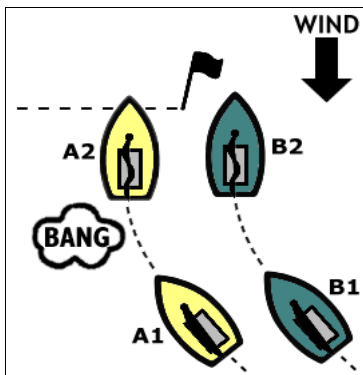
1979 Sunfish without trailer. Asking \$850. Call Greg at 412-963-8735; leave message.

Scots n: Water - 30+ recent issues of the Flying Scot Association magazine - free to any Scot owner. Contact Bob at 412-241-0659.

THE RACING RULES OF SAILING FOR 1997-2000

FACTS OF THE INCIDENT

A and B were on starboard tack and overlapped approaching the mark at the right end of the starting line to start. B was the windward boat and had established her overlap on A from clear astern. A hailed B that she would luff. A then luffed slowly and "shut the door" on B, forcing her on the wrong side of the starting mark until at position 2 both boats were head to wind. The starting signal was given between positions 1 and 2, when the boats were approximately one boat length from the line and while A could still give B the space needed to sail on the correct side of the mark. B protested.



QUESTION: What rules are broken and by whom?

ANSWERS

No rules are broken. Throughout the incident, A has right of way under Rule 11 and B is required to keep clear of her. B satisfies her obligation. When A changes course, she is required by Rule 16 to allow B "room to keep clear" of her on her new course. When A hails her intention to luff and then luffs "slowly" she certainly allows B the necessary "room to keep clear."

At position 1, A and B are on the same tack and overlapped so under Rule 11 (On the Same Tack, Overlapped) B, the windward boat, must keep clear of A, the leeward boat.

At position 2, both boats are still on starboard tack (a boat that is head to wind is on the same tack she was on immediately before going head to wind). Rule 11 continues to apply and A still has right of way.

SUMMARY

Rule 18 (Passing Marks and Obstructions) does not apply at a starting mark surrounded by navigable water when boats are approaching it to start. Thus, B is not entitled to "room" to pass on the correct side of the starting mark. So long as A complies with Rule 16 (Changing Course) and allows B "room to keep clear" of her she may luff B head to wind and on the wrong side of the mark. And, since the overlap was not created by A overlapping B from clear astern, Rule 17.1 (On the Same Tack; Proper Course) does not apply and A is not required to sail a "proper course" after the starting signal is given.

RULES THAT APPLY

Rule 11: Right of Way, On the same tack, overlapped.

When boats are on the same tack and overlapped, a windward boat shall keep clear of a leeward boat.

Rule 16 Changing Course:

When a right-of-way boat changes course, she shall give the boat room to keep clear.

Credits: The case was adapted from Art Engel's Rules Quizzes web page. Rules were copied from "The Rules of Sailing 1997-2000" published by US Sailing
-submitted by Wolf Goethert

COMMUNITY SAILING NEWS

Thanks to Dave Bishop, Jim Starr and Arleen Richardson for moving the CSP boats to their summer storage locations. Thanks to Len Moisey who will handle our Flying Scot reservations again and for refinishing the rudder on "Uncle Charlie". Thanks to Rich Reynolds, Mark Eberhardt and Ted Taylor for helping with summer boat storage and to Scott Hennessee and to Jim and Suzetta Large for helping with the use of their Sunfish. A special thanks is also extended to Walt and Flo Rudov who donated equipment to the club last year. Congratulations is extended to Dave Bishop and his wife Jane Boies and to Bernie Wiwel who are proud new owners of Flying Scots. Congratulations is also extended to Jim Starr and Arleen Richardson who will be married on June 7th.

Most boats in our CSP fleet are available for use by CSP members. Our fleet consists of six Sunfish, a Surprise and two Flying Scots at Watts Bay and another Flying Scot in the water at the Davis Hollow Marina. The Surprise and Sunfish are available to CSP members on a first come basis and the Flying Scots can be reserved through Len Moisey at 412-242-9341 or susieJ@earthlink.net. A list of program jobs and miscellaneous work items will be compiled. If you have questions or would like a copy of the 1999 program description, contact Jim Starr at James_E_Starr@dlc.dqe.com or 724-935-1987.

YOUTH SAILING NEWS

A hearty thank-you is extended to Jim Linaberger for the donation of his Cape Cod Frosty sailing dingy "The Red Menace" for use in our youth program. Jim built the boat himself and outfitted it with a new North mainsail and all Harkin fittings. The boat will be one of the featured attractions at the kick off activity for our explorer post on Sunday, May 23rd, from 1-4 PM. If you know of any high school aged youth interested in sailing or if you are an adult willing to help supervise high school youth sailing activities, please contact Post Advisor Jim Starr or Associate Advisor Arleen Richardson so they can help you get registered and involved in the post.

We also need help with a girl scout sailing activity on Saturday, June 5th, a special boy scout activity on Saturday, July 10th, and for our boy scout small boat sailing merit badge activities on the following Tuesdays and Thursdays: July 6, 8, 13, 15, 20, 22, 27, 29. Sharing your knowledge and enthusiasm with interested youth can be fun and rewarding. If you know how to sail and would be willing to share some of your time with interested youth, you are qualified to help us out and we need you. For more information or to sign up, contact Jim Starr at James_E_Starr@dlc.dqe.com or 724-935-1987.

Moraine Sailing Club 1999 Race Committees
 (First race at 10:30 AM unless indicated otherwise)

May 22	Dave Green	Kirk, Keiser	2	Championship Day 2
May 29	Joe Shields	Lou Ann Shields B. Wiwel, J. Hynds	2	Championship Day 3
June 5	Betty Harris	Larman, Williams, Johnson	2	“Hot N Cool” Social Spinnaker Clinic Championship Day 4 Challenger Day 2
June 19	Dean Marlin	Chris Peters, C. Marlin, Bishop,	2	Championship Day 5 Challenger Day 3
June 26	Dennis Snyder	Vito, Fedosick, Bruce Brown, Ringle	2	Women’s Sunfish Regatta Championship Day 6
July 10	John McAdoo III	Eberhardt, Jarold	2	Championship Day 7 Challenger Day 4
July 17-18	Bob Gelman	Dan Gelman, Flying Scot Fleet	Sat. & Sun	PA Catamaran Regatta, Catamaran Invitational
July 24	Gerry Brandt	Jombock, V. Higgins	2	Championship Day 8 Challenger Day 5
July 31 Afternoon start	Greg Madzelonka	Kennedy & Thad, Capone	1-2	Davis Marina Area Race 1PM Marina entrance
August 7	John Onstott	McAdoo Sr., Tomal	2	Championship Day 9 Challenger Day 6
August 14	Bob Boyles	Cullen, McCall	2	Championship Day 10
August 21	Jim Starr	Explorer Fleet, Richardson	2	Championship Day 11 Challenger Day 7
August 28	Dan Goldberg	Reis, Hare	2	Regatta at Lake Arthur Championship Day 12
September 4	Bill Tingle	Jim Hastings, Geo. Reed	2	Championship Day 13
September 11	John Hauser	Kearns, Linaberger	3	End o’ Summer Regatta
	Paul Rowan	Goethert, Lucarelli	3	Fall Race Day
September 25-26	Mark Wiggins	Catamaran Fleet	3 Sat 1 Sun	Flying Scot “Sail for the Grail” Invitational

Championship days will have **two** starts: Flying Scots and All Others. On Challenger days a third start **may** be added for Catamarans. Canceled Championship/Challenger days will be made up at the next possible Championship/Challenger day. Missed Championship Day races will be thrown out. Challenger will have two throw-outs. The latest MSC Sailing Instructions are dated April 1997. Additional copies may be available at Watts Bay. **Day Steward may cancel races for any reason.**



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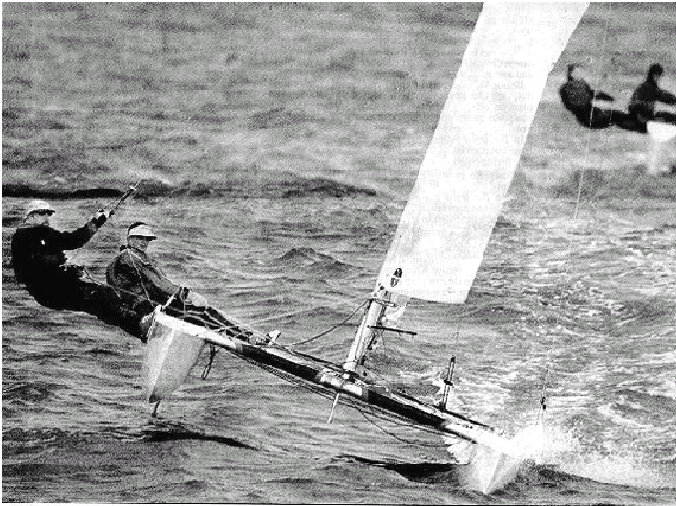
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Erik and Mike on their Tornado at Santa Cruz, California



Missy Hare & Gerald Lucarelli Set Up Final Run

(Continued from page 1)

Tornado sailing.

This type of sailing requires incredible sailing knowledge, physical strength, stamina and agility. But just as demanding is the administration, equipment maintenance and enhancements, travel, and fund-raising. Erik has done much research on Tornado rigging and materials and would like to continue some of this work with US Sailing. With all of this, Erik still works a part time job out of his home town in Rochester, New York. We wish Erik the best in his quest.

As Erik's talk wound down with questions and discussions, the rustling started up again for the evening's second major event. This was the fourth annual Rain Gutter Regatta. The racing course was set up in the middle of the floor and race Chairman Dan Goldberg began the event by paring up the contestants.

This year an extra piece of styrofoam was added to the materials and the designs were more varied. Catamarans were more predominant than previous years. At first, fundamental boat design was the key as some boats could not navigate the narrow channel without getting hung up on the

side. A few boats were not well balanced and blew over by the strong wind. Overall, the boats showed much improvement over previous years.

As the rounds progressed it became apparent that the starboard course was favored. Just as our top racers at Lake Arthur find the best side of the course, so did our top Rain Gutter sailors. Soon the field narrowed to three: Gerald Lucarrelli, last years 2nd place winner, Missy Hare, our first female finalist, and Carl Suppo, a first time Regatta entrant.

In an incredibly close semi final Carl was eliminated and the race was down to Missy and Gerald. After they traded off single race wins, it was down to one last race. As the crowd watched in great anticipation Missy nipped Gerald by little more than the wooden skewer that protruded from the bow. For the second year in a row Gerald had to settle for second place.

In youth activities at the events we note the participation of Dylan Townsend, Thad Madzelonka, Lilly Jarold, and Noah Vito. These outstanding young sailors will likely be among our finalists in races at future Regattas - both at Lake Arthur and at our annual Spring Flings.



Rain Gutter Regatta Chairman
Dan Goldberg & Winner Missy Hare

Crew List

- Kathleen & Daniel Cowles kathleenly@aol.com
- Joanne Hynds 412-343-4928
- Barbara Keiser 412-826-8369
- James and Elsa Linaberger 724-935-4578
- Dan and Michele Malone 412-921-3142
- Sean Marshall 412-921-4431
- John and Marie Novotny 724-325-4704
- Larry and Anna O'Toole 412-384-2610
- Ursula Pappas 412-278-1919
- Candy, Casey and Abbey Przicina
330-788-2524
- Edward and Helen Sieger 412-563-2345
- Daniel and Trisha Stivers 724-794-8587
- Yvonne Weniger 724-935-8636

Tania Aebi Shares Her Adventure



Tania at the home of Jean Bongiovanni

Tania Aebi told the story of her 2 1/2 year solo circumnavigation of the world at a special event organized by MSC member Jean Bongiovanni. Jean invited Tania to Pittsburgh after reading her remarkable book "Maiden Voyage". Fortunately she opened the event to MSC members as well as the Pittsburgh sailing community. About 50 people attended the talk at Jean's beautiful home in Allison Park on May 8th.

The remarkable thing about Tania's trip was that she was only 18 years old when she left New York harbor on a 26 ft. sailboat. When she completed the voyage in 1985 she was the youngest person to sail alone around the world. Tania started her talk by explaining why she decided to start the adventure. It was an idea presented by her father as an alternative to college, but she did not say 'yes' right away. The idea simmered over a period where she spent considerable time on a trans-Atlantic voyage with her

family. Contrary to some accounts she did have considerable sailing experience prior to starting the voyage.

Tania is an excellent speaker and along with some great slides, her story came to life once more. Most of the audience had read the book, but no one seemed bored as she retold her trip again. The audience remained spellbound as she told how she made landfalls with an inaccurate plastic sextant and how she dealt with storms and equipment failures.

She had of three different cats with her at various times, and even though one is still with her 12 years later, she recommends that solo circumnavigators leave their cats at home. She met her husband on the voyage and has two small children ages 5 and 7. She lives in Vermont and is a co-partner in Tania Aebi's Sailing Adventures - a sailing school aimed at women who want to learn about sailing on extended cruises at popular world wide locations.

MSC Members at Lake Norman

Two Flying Scots from Fleet 80 ventured to Lake Norman, NC the first weekend in May for the Great 48 Regatta: Dan Goldberg/Joni Reis and Jim Starr/Arlene Richardson. A big storm on the coastline resulted in high winds and cold weather Saturday, so no racing was held. On Sunday morning, the winds were less but still heavy (20-25 range) and three races were held. Jim and Arlene completed the first race then watched the remainder from the warmth of the shore. Dan and Joni hooked up with ex-MSC members Ray Peters and daughter Truda, and sailed 4-up (the legal maximum on a Scot for racing). They finished cold and wet but were 6th in the 43-boat regatta. Another ex-MSC member, Patti Lawton (nee Jahns), sailing with her husband Tom, finished 5th, and may come to Pittsburgh for the Sail for the Grail. Ray, Truda, and Patti say HI to all their MSC friends!

MORAINESAILING CLUB APPLICATION/INFORMATION FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/ST/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Boats Owned: _____

Comments: _____

I'm interested in learning to sail

I'm interested in Racing. Tell me more about

Community Sailing

I'm interested in crewing

I wish to join *Moraine Sailing Club*. I am enclosing a check for \$25.00 to cover the basic membership dues. (Student dues \$15.00)

I wish to join as a *Community Sailing member*. Enclosed is a check for \$225.

I wish to join as a *Championship racing member*. Enclosed is a check for \$90.

I wish to join as a *Challenger racing member*. Enclosed is a check for \$75. Send to:

Betty Harris-Larman, Membership Chairperson

10041 Oakridge Drive, Wexford PA 15090

Signature: _____

Batten The Breeze
Moraine Sailing Club Newsletter
Robert Zavos, Editor
1007 Savannah Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15221



Paul Egbert
663 Pittsburgh Rd.
Butler, PA 16001



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Olympic Campaign Update

The following "Sail mail" describes the latest activities in Erik Goethert and Mike Ingham's Olympic Campaign to represent the USA at Sidney, Australia in the Tornado class:

From: "erik goethert" <erikg@ibm.net>

Subject: SailMail April 1999

Princess Sophia Cup (Sophy Trophy)

After a 5 hour rest in Rochester from the Pre-trials in Santa Cruz, we flew on to Mallorca, Spain, hoping that our boat had made it out of Brazil, into Sweden, and eventually down to Spain in one piece. We were fortunate that some kind German sailors had everything organized, and our boat was waiting for us to assemble. We had also ordered 2 new mains, a mylar and a dacron, and a new jib from Italy. Our first new sails with our official number, USA 811 on them. No more quilts or used sails. We started building the boat at 2:00pm, and measurement closed at 7:00, barely enough time. The fleet was 70 boats, with most of the top 30 present. Welcome to the European circuit! Luckily the first day was slightly delayed because of lack of wind. We certainly need the time to get our boat in shape. The regatta went off without a hitch - no breakdowns, and I stayed on the boat. Winds ranged from 6-18 knots, a

good range. Our scores were in the 20s, with our best a 12. We were fighting for 20th place until the last race, when we blew a gate rounding, letting a pack of boats go by. We finished 23rd, which is the best we have done in a major international event. We have moved up 10 places since last year. Our speed and boat handling has improved, and I finally feel that we are racing. However, we are still trying new sails, and know that we need to improve on our gate roundings and starts. The 2 Australian boats were 1-2, with the world champion winning the regatta. They are sailing fast and smart! In a weeks time we go back to Mallorca for the European Championships. The rest of the US team will be there with the container from Santa Cruz. It should be a good test of our abilities versus the other Americans (and the world). Our friend Amy from Santa Cruz sent us an article written about the pre-trials. We are looking for frequent flier miles, and support for a coach. This is the final push, and we intend on having a coach at our practice sessions. Thanks for your support!!! -erik

see the latest at: www.viewpointusa.com/tornado