

THE HORNPIPE

VOLUME 32, NO. 1

JANUARY 2008

CCSC 2008 Board Members

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Outgoing Commodore's Comments

IT'S OFFICIAL! By a unanimous and highly enthusiastic vote, the nominated slate for the 2008 board of directors of the club was elected to the offices set forth below:

George Alberts, commodore
Matt Coyle, vice commodore
Nan Shellabarger, secretary
Ed Sabin, treasurer
Jenny Poniske, membership
Cynthia & Duncan MacDonald, social chairs
Judy & Steve Foland, The Hornpipe editors

With this talented group at the helm, a great year of sailing and socializing in 2008 is assured!

Upcoming is the winter meeting on January 26 at Cynthia and Duncan MacDonald's home. This promises to be a great event with an informal program at which various members will be recognized for their services to the club, awards will be given out, and the club's year afloat will be reviewed. Of course, there will be no great surprises, as everyone pretty much knows from "real time" or from reading the pages of this revered publication what happened and who made it

happen. But like a small town newspaper, the program will not be about what the news is as much as who got caught by the paper's photographer!

The club's board of directors met several days ago, at the end of the commodore's dinner, to review a number of issues and projects for the club. Some very interesting initiatives were discussed. Elsewhere in this issue and in his "State of the Fleet Address" at the upcoming winter meeting, George Alberts is providing a detailed look at the year gone by and the board's plans for the future. Provocative stuff!

As if the foregoing isn't enough to make attendance at the winter meeting a must, another compelling attraction is rumored. I am told that Patrick McGeehan and Linda Serf, members who became inactive last summer while rebuilding a substantial part of the interior of their S-2, *Annie Rose*, will be present at the meeting, signaling their becoming active in the club once again. This is welcome news, as their absence last year was certainly a loss for the club.

The board of directors has granted stalwart member Nan Shellabarger dispensation in advance for her failure to appear at the winter meeting. Nan will be sailing a 45-foot Island Packet in the Virgin Islands. Some people really know how to live! The

rest of us can only hope for serialized reports of this adventure, in great detail, in upcoming issues of The Hornpipe.

Throwing all caution and decorum to the wind, in closing, I add the following observation to the age-old debate on the relative merits of sailing and sex: At least you don't need to hide your old issues of Sailing magazine! Legal disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed in this paragraph are not those of our treasurer, Ed Sabin (aka Eduardo Sabino), who generously shares his old issues of Sailing magazine with club members. I stumbled upon this debate point while surfing the Internet and reprint it here without alteration.

These are my final comments. I have had great fun this past year. And I will continue submitting articles to The 'Pipe; foresaid articles, some members report, serving well as birdcage liners.

Lee Benedict

Incoming Commodore's Comments

I first want to offer my thanks to Lee Benedict for steering the CCSC through the past year with vision, humor, patience, and a terrific writer's touch. Thanks, Lee!

I thank the other board members for their excellent service and their generous agreement to serve on the board in 2008. And a hearty welcome back (to the board) to Nan Shellabarger!

I also want to encourage all of you to check out the club's website. Take a look at www.ccsail.org and consider contributing some photos. Also, search your records for any of the old Hornpipes that are still missing from the archive. Bob Lowenstein deserves a hearty thank-you from all of us for making the website happen. Let's make good use of it, especially as a tool to help recruit new members.

This is being written a few days after New Year's Day 2008. Everyone seems to be writing or talking about New Year's resolutions, so I thought I'd offer up a few of my sailing resolutions for 2008. I resolve to reef my sails as soon as I ask myself if I should reef. I resolve to wear my inflatable PFD at all times while underway (next year I'll resolve to

wear my harness and hook in). I resolve to (finally) practice using spring lines to help me handle *Breezing Up* when the winds or currents are foul. And most importantly, I resolve to sail! That means more than simply getting out on the water more often this year (always a good idea). It means thinking twice about firing up the iron main when I'm underway and the winds are less than ideal. Sailing slowly almost always beats motoring fast, unless you are in a hurry. And if you are always in a hurry, consider getting a cigarette boat.

I look forward to kicking off the new season with all of you at the MacDonalds on Saturday, January 26. Please bring your \$35 dues for 2008.

George Alberts

Thanks to Bob Loewenstein

CCSC wants to thank Bob Loewenstein again for setting up the club's web site: ccscsail.org. A number of steps were involved in the process and even after it was set up, Google and Yahoo search engines did not immediately recognize the site — in other words you could type in the words Columbia Corinthian Sailing Club and no hits were registered on the screen other than some old listings of yacht clubs which included us but not our new website.

Some of these listings (for example the Spinsheet listing of sailing clubs in the region) had to be updated before Google and Yahoo would pick up the link. Perhaps some other black magic also was performed? Anyway the net result is that at least some search engines are now leading people to our new website. Check out the club listings in your January 2008 paper copy of Spinsheet.

Ed Sabin

[Editor's note: Perhaps I can explain some of the black magic that Ed alluded to. Search engines use bots (short for robot and variously called spiders, trawlers, ferrets, fetchers, crawlers, etc.) to continually search the Internet for data. Having found data, the data are then entered into a data base and indexed. When somebody uses a search engine, like Google for instance, the engine searches the index of the data base, not the entire

Internet. Some time is required for bots to randomly find information, such as our club website, and to get the information into an indexed data base so it can be found during a search. Different search engines' bots will require different periods of time before they stumble across the website, hence some search engines will have the information before others have it. Steve Foland]

Looking Back on the CCSC Cruising Season

Our club began the year with an ambitious cruising schedule. In addition to the traditional spring meeting/picnic and the summer's picnic/regatta, the official cruise schedule listed eleven on-the-water cruises. The schedule also suggested a number of full-moon evenings as candidates for our first-ever full-moon cruise. Two other innovations in the schedule were the first-ever commodore's cruise and the proposed mid-week cruise (retirees special).

Of the eleven on-the-water cruises scheduled, eight actually took place. Five of them went exactly as planned. In three of the cruises, the cruise captains elected an alternative destination (in two cases due to the winds). Sixteen boats took part in at least one of the cruises. The Memorial Day weekend cruise had the most participants — nine CCSC boats took part in at least one of the two overnights. The second most popular cruise was the cruise to Yorktown — this extended summer cruise involved seven club boats. The Labor Day cruise on the Choptank saw six boats taking part. The first-ever commodore's cruise involved four boats (including *Parasol!*). The shakedown cruise and the best wine cruise also saw four boats taking part. The Mexican dinner cruise involved three club boats (plus kayaks carrying the Sabins). The prize-winner for fewest boats was the urban cruise in July, which saw just one party arriving by water.

We unfortunately had to call off the planned mid-week cruise due to poor weather. We did, however, manage two full-moon, evening cruises, the first involving three boats and the second involving one boat with several club members aboard.

In terms of participation by individual boats, the leader was *Breezing Up*, with six cruises. *Octavia* took part in four, and *In Like Flynn*, *Windsong*, *Heather II*, and *Agape* three each. Enjoying two of the cruises were *Nancy Ann*, *Aldeberan*, *Impulse*, *Nik of Time*, and *Lauren A*.

Overall it was a successful season, with a few new wrinkles folded into the traditional schedule. At least two of the cruises were salvaged by changing the destination, based on the expected winds. The innovations were popular — we can look forward to a traditional commodore's cruise and perhaps some more moonlight cruising. The mid-week cruise deserves another try.

Our vice commodore, Matt Coyle, will soon begin putting together the upcoming season's cruise schedule. He would welcome your ideas and suggestions. Let's all work on getting even more boats out and enjoying club cruises this year.

George Alberts

Notes from the Flynns

Hello to everyone. Just a note to let you know where we are, where we've been, and where we are going.

We are presently in not-too-sunny California. We are at an RV park in Palm Springs visiting with friends Terry & Linda. We're having a nice visit and a nice time. Dave flew in from Estes Park for the weekend, and we hiked in Joshua Tree National Park.

The last time I wrote, we were just starting our volunteer time in Patagonia, Arizona. Time must be flying, because we finished our two months gig almost a month ago. Again, we really enjoyed our volunteer time and have already committed to returning next year. We've also fallen in love with southern Arizona — from Tucson south — and can't imagine not spending part of every year there. While we were there, we did a little traveling around. Our favorite places are the national parks and monuments, particularly the Chiricahua National Monument and Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument. Both are in southern Arizona and both are beautiful. I've enclosed two pictures to prove it.



Tom in an Organ Pipe Cactus

On Thursday, January 10, we will go back to Arizona and tour around for about five weeks. Then we'll go to Truth or Consequences, New Mexico, stay for about a week, and leave the RV there. We have plans to go to Belize on February 20 and then to Alabama and Florida.

So keep in touch. Our cell service is better in some areas and worse in others. But we do return messages and emails. Happy camping and sailing, wherever you are

Love, Adrian & Tom Flynn



Adrian at the Chiricahua National Monument