

The object of the Sandusky Sailing Club shall be the promotion and encouragement of sailing and seamanship, and of a sportsmanlike attitude toward racing and competition. The Club is organized to encourage small boat sailing and racing among those who may not be able to afford large annual dues and assessments.

PO BOX 814
SANDUSKY, OHIO 44871-0814
www.sanduskysailingclub.com



February 2019 Cross Bearings

01/30	Wed	Winter Wednesday.....	5:00pm
02/05	Tues	SJSI, Inc board meeting.....	7:00pm
02/10	Sun	Race Committee Boat work day #6..	noon
02/12	Tues	SSC Board meeting.....	7:00pm
02/13	Wed	Winter Wednesday	5:00pm
02/19	Tues	Communications Committee meeting .	7:00pm
02/20	Wed	Winter Wednesday	5:00pm
02/23	Sat	Wine Tasting and Spaghetti Social.....	5:00pm
02/24	Sun	Race Committee Boat work day #7	noon
02/27	Wed	Winter Wednesday	5:00pm
03/01	Fri	Membership dues are due	5:00pm
03/05	Tues	SJSI, Inc board meeting	7:00pm
03/06	Wed	Winter Wednesday	5:00pm
03/10	Sun	Race Committee Boat work day #8.....	noon
03/12	Tues	SSC Board meeting	7:00pm
03/13	Wed	Winter Wednesday	5:00pm
03/16	Sat	St. Patrick's Day party	6:00pm
03/19	Tues	Communications Committee meeting .	7:00pm
03/20	Wed	Winter Wednesday	5:00pm
03/24	Sun	Race Committee Boat work day #9.....	noon
03/27	Wed	Winter Wednesday	5:00pm

For more info, go to www.sanduskysailingclub.com and check out the SSC calendar.

Commodore's Comments..... Comm. John Schwartz

Cleveland Boat Show – Well, the boat show is over and we are into the ugly part of the Ohio winter. Speaking of the boat show I want to give full credit to PC Steve France and his army of volunteers who manned the multiple Sandusky Sailing booths at this year's show. Hopefully everyone got my email a week or so ago where the sailing simulator (with SSC's own Mic Kaufman and Larry Knauer) was featured on Fox 8's "Kickin' It With Kenny." Thank you to all the people who represented SSC and our sport. And thank you to Steve for doing such a bang-up job promoting SSC.

My bit in last month's Cross Bearings got some attention.

Two of these responses are in the *For the Good of the Order* section. I think it's good debate. My bias (one of them; I have a few) is that I don't think that the marine industry trends should automatically be allowed to dictate what SSC does as a social club. The marine industry is made up of businesses seeking margin. I'm just saying that as a social club, SSC has interests that might not be completely represented by the same forces/trends. But obviously, we shouldn't ignore them either.

My personal history with sailing is pretty typical for where and when we live. I sailed a lot (and had discretionary income) prior to having kids. Sold the boat when my oldest was born and had a series of daysailors when the kids were small. I had larger keelboats four of the last 18 years that I got rid of because I didn't have the time or money

to use them. While I know that it is often counterproductive, my wife and I did the whole year-round hamster wheel of modern parenting around school and travel sports, went on the prescribed family vacations to beaches, cities and Disney-- all while working multiple day jobs and trying to save as much of the \$200,000 that we are going to hand over to colleges over the next six years. It's exhausting and it never feels like you're getting it quite right.

My point is that we are trying to sell SSC and sailing to people like me, or maybe to the generation behind us that maybe doesn't have kids yet but is feeling just as pinched trying to save for a house, maybe future kids, maybe retirement. I think that there is a niche for SSC as an affordable sailing venue if we could build the interest. There are so many cheap boats, but fewer and fewer sailors every year. I don't have any answers, but somehow I'd love for us to figure out how to capitalize on the opportunity to show people more than dry virtual social clubs and thereby start chipping away at the dissolving membership of our flesh, blood, brick and mortar club. I've always liked the quote attributed to Henry Ford that, "If I asked people what they wanted, they would have said faster horses." I don't think that the modern US knows how much it needs affordable, outdoor community activities like sailing. The smaller the better, in my book.

Anyway, stay warm. I appreciate the snow, although I don't know how much skiing I'm going to be able to do this year (see \$ for college reference above).

If you want to contact me, feel free to contact me at john@firelandslocal.com or at 419-706-5137.



SSC's booth at the Cleveland Boat Show

El Vicio Comodoro VC Matt Bedee

The yearbook – Work begins this month and I am hoping to negotiate with local restaurants to offer a small special for SSC members (using their gate key) as part of their advertisement in the yearbook. I don't think it's a secret that Downtown Sandusky has many options for a great dining experience and options continue to be added every time you turn around. Meanwhile, if you have been a yearbook advertiser in the past, we would appreciate your support again this year.

Social events will be a hoot this year with RC Andy Davis in charge. I want to thank him for a great start with our first Winter Wednesday of 2019. I look forward to attending more of them this winter and don't forget to use #SSCWinter Wednesdays if you attend them. The Communications Committee will be utilizing Social Media more this summer and is asking members to not only tag Sandusky Sailing Club in their posts, but this winter please use #SSCWinter Wednesdays. Watch for text messages to be utilized more, starting with Winter Wednesdays; an email will be sent out in the next week or so on how to sign up for the text updates.

Social Media is a great tool for the club, but it has a time and a place. Parties, regattas, and other club events are absolutely when Social Media is encouraged to show support for the club. SSC Flag Officers and the Communications Committee would like to discourage the use of Social Media for topics that should be brought to the SSC Board for discussion vs. posted on Social Media.

One such subject is the development of Battery Park, which includes Sadler Sailing Basin and SSC property. If the information has not come via email/letter from the SSC Board, which has a great relationship with the Sandusky City Manager and City Hall, it is not updated information and could adversely affect that relationship. The SSC Board will always keep the membership up to date on anything new that has developed and we are genuine when we say there is nothing to report. Eric Wobser, the Sandusky city manager, has indicated that all stakeholders will be included when the time comes to discuss the future of Battery Park, but that time is not now.

SSC logo decals – I have placed a SSC logo decal on my tablet/laptop and I have had a lot of people notice/comment on it. Think about getting one for your car or your laptop, so when you are working at a coffee shop or the like, people can see that you are proud to be a Sandusky Sailing Club member.



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It's a great way to promote the club without much effort. They are available at the Dairy Bar, so maybe grab one or two the next time you get a drink.

Credit Cards are in their second year at the Dairy Bar. There has been a cost to the club to use the cards, but I don't believe it has outweighed the benefit for members. The only change this year will be a \$10 minimum to use your credit card at the Dairy Bar, which is typical for many small businesses to help decrease costs on individual small purchases.

Contact me – Please feel free to email questions, comments, or suggestions to ViceCommodore@SanduskySailingClub.com or call/text me at 419-202-0044.

Views from the RearRC Andy Davis

Winter Blahs / Winter Wednesdays: We had our first Winter Wednesday on Jan. 16 with a stellar turnout. Light hors d'oeuvres and pizza were enjoyed by nearly 30 folks. The fire was warm and toasty, and certainly the libations were popular. I would highly suggest you try to make it to the Winter Wednesdays, as they are truly enjoyable.

The next Winter Wednesday is on Jan. 30, and I will be serving pulled pork sliders for a nominal fee (Cinda and I will be making the pork, so be aware, it will be GREAT). Each Winter Wednesday will have a slightly different offering in terms of munchies and if you are anything like me, I am ready to do something with my sailing compadres. The dates for Winter Wednesdays are: Jan. 30, Feb. 13, 20 and 27, and March 6, 13, 20 and 27. There will occasionally be folks who have never been to the sailing club, so please ensure you try to make a few Wednesdays to interact with those who are simply getting the feel for our club and members. We will start at 5pm on these days for those who can make it and food will be available around 6pm. Come and enjoy the fire as well as a selection of beverages from the Dairy Bar, and some snacks.

Spaghetti Social and WINE TASTING – The annual Wine Tasting, accompanied by a home-made spaghetti dinner will be Feb. 23. What is better than a superb wine selection with Italian? Right, especially when someone else is cooking. Great opportunity to gather and enjoy a superb dinner (I am cooking) as well as some libations. My sauce is very good, folks (meat sauce, fresh veggies, meatballs and sausage) and SSC member Jerry Ervin from Heidelberg Distributing will be supporting the Wine Tasting. Thank you Jerry. The Dairy Bar will be open around 5pm, with wine tasting and dinner beginning around 6pm. In an effort to remain in line with

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SSC WINE TASTING AND SPAGHETTI SOCIAL

WHEN: February 23, 2019. Dinner and Wine tasting starts at 6pm
Dairy Bar opens at 5pm

COST: Wine Tasting - \$12, Spaghetti Dinner - \$8

MEAL: Home Made Spaghetti Dinner with Sausage/Meatballs,
Salad, and Bread

WHERE: Sandusky Sailing Club



previous years, the cost will be \$12 for the wine tasting and \$8 for spaghetti (total for a wonderful evening being \$20 per person.) I would expect to have people interested in the club, who are not members, also there to rub elbows with our members. I hope everyone can make this event.

St. Patty's Day at the Sailing Club March 16: It is true that St. Patrick's Day is just around the corner, so no better time to have a St. Patty's Day party with all the fixin's (Traditional corned beef and cabbage dinner, potatoes, appetizers in St. Patty's Day fashion, and of course dessert for a nominal cost of \$20, with all profits going towards the "RC Boat Repair Fund"). The Dairy Bar will be serving all of your favorite Irish concoctions including Guinness, Bass Ale, GL Conway's, Killian's and of course, an assortment of Irish whiskeys. Jay Austin has been gracious in chairing this event so we know it will be a "Smashing Success." Thank you Jay. It is critical that you RSVP to Jay Austin at jaustin6@kent.edu by March 2. (See attached flier.)

Sunday Funday: As a broader initiative, my goal in 2019 is to revitalize the Sunday Races for big boats as a way for new sailors to enjoy and learn about sailing. We already have broad participation from the Interlake Fleet on Sundays, which illustrates our love of sailing. I will be reaching out to folks in regards to big boat participation on Sunday mornings, and ideally making your boat available to include a new sailor or two for those fun races. Following a fun sail on Sunday mornings (perhaps some Bloody Marys; I hear Tim makes a great one) there is always enjoyable banter and ideally, SSC can become a Sunday destination for all those who wish to learn, and ultimately join as a member.

Upcoming events – The 2019 social schedule continues to evolve, but I need your input. What do you think would be a great event? Is there interest in a specific event? A Holiday Party, or even something a little more low key? What have been the best events over the years that you look back on and say, "That event was a blast and I wish we did it again?" I have received feedback from some, but need and would appreciate your feedback. Let's make 2019 the year we all look back on and agree that it was a year of years...

In short, my vision is continuing to build SSC into the premier sailing venue on Lake Erie. I see that vision as a journey, not a destination. I have been visiting with several member committees, including Membership and LTS and am working on ensuring each specific event or gathering is aligned with longer term strategy and growing the love of sailing. Thanks everyone.

Contact me – Please feel free to email me with questions, comments, or suggestions at andydavis@idexx.com or on my cell at 262-202-1372.

A note from the Treasury Bernie & Dave
The dues statements have been mailed. Thanks, Tim for your work. We appreciate all who have already mailed in a check or replied via PayPal! If you haven't already, if you can, please include generous contributions to one or more of the worthwhile causes that need our support. Remember all dues are due by March 1. If you have any questions or concerns, contact our club manager, Tim Kyle.

Regatta Committee..... Jay Austin

The summer of 2019 just got a little busier and more exciting!

SSC will host the Highlander Nationals July 13-18.

The Highlander dinghy is a 3-4 person, 20' day sailor.

The five-day regatta will include a day of measurement, a women's and junior championship, and the four-day National Championship. It will be great to get a national event back to the club after having an off-year in 2018. As with all these large scale regattas, it will be all-hands-on-deck to host a fantastic event for our guests. Our VC Matt Bedee has graciously stepped up to chair the Nationals. He will be getting more details to us in the coming weeks.

After we meet with the fleet representatives later this month, we will start getting regatta management committees together. If you are interested in chairing a committee such as meal planning, facility management, launch and recovery, accommodations, etc. please contact Matt. We need organizers and plenty of "do-ers."

These types of regattas produce great profit and PR for our club, so let's support our tradition of outstanding small boat racing on Sandusky Bay!

2109 SSC regattas:

June: One Design Regatta

Thistle Lake Erie District Championship

Sandusky Islands Race/Stein Hospice Cup

July: Highlander Class National Championships (July 13-18)

Sandusky Bay Portsmouth Regatta

SJRT Traveler Series Regatta

Aug.: I-LYA Deepwater/Steeplechase

Kelleys Island Moonlight Race

Funday Pursuit Race to PCYC

Sept.: J/24 District 12 Championship

Of course, please remember all the Wednesday and Sunday races that are governed by our excellent group of Race Committee volunteers. They're always looking for help too!

Please let me know if you are willing to chair any of these regattas. We are ALWAYS looking for volunteers to help in the planning process. Feel free to contact me at 330-351-0283 or regattas@SanduskySailingClub.com.

Operations Tim Kyle

The next meeting of the Sadler Basin Committee

will be Monday, April 1 at 7:00pm. Even though we don't officially meet during the winter, we continue to work on improving our basin. If you have ideas or questions, do not hesitate contact a Sadler Sailing Basin Committee member.

Feel free to contact me with concerns about the marina or clubhouse at manager@SanduskySailingClub.com or call 419-656-5881.

RC Boat Committee..... Terry Parker

Work Day # 4 – January 13, 2019

ESCORT III

ROOF

Rotted plywood roof removed

Braces strengthened/replaced

New spacers between braces installed

New plywood sheets cut and ready to install

New LED running lights acquired

BILGE

Vacuumed and de-greased

Bilge platform boards out being refinished

CABIN

Ceiling boards and bilge platform boards being refinished at home (S. Hartley)

ESCORT I

BILGE

Cleaned of debris and oily residue

INTERIOR/CABIN

Forward cabin – stripped and sanded, ready for repaint

Ceiling insulation material (degraded) removed; ceiling will be repainted

DECK/HULL

Bottom paint sanded down to barrier coat; new barrier coat and bottom paint needed

GRADY

DECK/HULL

Rotted lower port bulkhead removed; replacement being fabricated (L. Kaufman)

Fiberglass damage along port rub rail sanded, dug out, awaiting epoxy time

Bottom paint sanded and ready for spring painting

BILGE

Vacuumed and cleaned of oily residue

CANVAS

Removed, to be picked up for needed repairs (R. Kyle)

MISCELLANEOUS

Anchor roller fitting removed to be strengthened (M. Bedee)

VHF antenna replacement to be acquired (M. Bedee)

VOLUNTEERS

Bernie Ashyk, Paul Kalister, PC Monty Kaufman

PC Mike Muhn, PC Jeff Smith and Phil Spicer.

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Cold temperatures are delaying the work requiring epoxy, adhesives and paint, but we have enough volunteers to get those done as we get closer to spring. We will likely increase the frequency of workdays once it is warmer.

Please check in with me if you plan to participate! There is only so much space to work. I will advise respondents prior to that day on what to bring. Terryparker47@gmail.com or 440-320-3100. Thanks again, everyone!

Learn to Sail.... Mic Kaufman / Suzanne Hartley
The Cleveland Boat Show battles the winter weather.

Yet, SJSI was at the boat show promoting Learn to Sail and Adaptive Sailing. There were two simulators, hooked up to race against each other. There were brochures and fliers and boats galore! There were Optis, Lasers, Highlanders, Wind Riders - oh, my! SJSI sold sea bags and promoted all the SJSI programs.

Thanks to all who made the SJSI presence a reality: Larry Knauer, Brent Coursman, Cliff Frisby, PC Steve France, PC Michael Fishbaugh, Mic Kaufman and Suzanne Hartley.

Please remember as you pay you Sailing Club dues that there is a place for you to donate to Learn to Sail. The cost of the lessons does not cover the cost of the program. Your donations are needed and appreciated.

Youth are the future of sailing.

The Learn to Sail youth sessions for 2019 are:

- Session 1June 17-June 21
- Session 2June 24-June 28
- Session 3July 8-July 12
- Session 4July 22-July 26
- Session 5July 29-Aug. 2

SJSI is looking forward to an exciting sailing program for youth and adults in 2019. The sailing simulator will be at the club for Winter Wednesdays. If it is too cold to sail but not cold enough for ice boating, try sailing a simulator!

Sea bags are available for sale sail. Contact Suzanne, Mic or Michael. Remember that the Learn to Sail program needs your help continue to train the next generation of sailors.



Communications Committee.....RC Matt Bedee

A Zoom Meeting was utilized for the General Membership Budget Meeting on Dec. 15 and it worked pretty well. If a standing meeting is on the SSC calendar and a Zoom Meeting has been created for it, that information will be in the *Calendar Info* for members to join the meeting.

SSC email addresses – One thing that will be implemented fully and used more this year will be the use of Sandusky Sailing Club email aliases to contact the different groups within the club. I will send out an entire list in the beginning of 2019 for members to start using and I'll update the website.

Contact us – Please feel free to email us with questions, comments, or suggestions at Communications@SanduskySailingClub.com.



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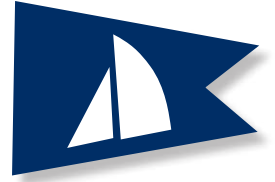
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LEARN TO SAIL



Presented by Sandusky Junior Sailors, Inc.

All sessions are for Beginner/Intermediate sailors.

2019 SCHEDULE

Session 1:

June 17 - June 21

Session 2:

June 24 - June 28

Session 3:

July 8 - July 12

Session 4:

July 22 - July 26

Session 5:

July 29 - August 2

Session Pricing

AM 9:00-12:00

\$130/SSC member

\$150/non-member

ALL DAY 9:00-4:00

\$250/SSC member

\$275/non-member

Please bring a lunch when attending all-day sessions.



Email learn@sanduskysailingclub.com or visit sanduskysailingclub.com to register or for more information



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SSC Logo on Left Chest, SSC Flags on Right Upper Arm
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Price: \$32.50



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Silver Body with Soft Navy Detail, Curved Shirttail Hem for Graceful Fit
50/50 Cotton/Polyester
SSC Flags on Left Chest, SSC Logo on Right Upper Arm
Sizes: Small to X-Large
Price: \$20.00



Women's Vest – Crisp Winter White, Front Zippered Pockets, Drawcords for Adjustable Hem
Super Soft 100% Polyester
SSC Logo on Left Chest
Sizes: Small to X-Large
Price: \$29.00



Unisex Quarter Zip Sweatshirt – Soft and Cuddly
50/50 Cotton/Polyester, Won't Shrink
SSC Burgee on Left Chest, SSC Logo on Right Upper Arm
Sizes: Small to X-Large
Price: \$32.00

Men's Khaki Classic Polo – 60/40 Cotton/Polyester
Odor Fighting, Moisture Wicking, Shrink/Stain/Wrinkle Resistant
SSC Burgee on Left Chest, SSC Flags on Right Sleeve
Sizes: Small to X-Large
Price: \$30.00



Duffel Bag – Heavy Duty Polyester with Adjustable Shoulder Strap, Top and Side Grip Handles, Front Zippered Pocket
Red and Black with SSC Flags on Front
Size: 22" x 11" x 10 ½"
Price: \$25.00



Beach Tote – Outside Pocket and Velcro Closure at Top
100% Cotton Canvas
Red with Navy Bottom and Straps, SSC Logo on Front
Size: 21 ½" x 15 ½" x 6 ½"
Price: \$20.00

- All Items are available for purchase at the Sandusky Sailing Club using Cash, Check, or Credit Card.
- Addition Sizes are available and can be special ordered.
- Questions and Inquiries, please email Carolyne at SSCGear@SanduskySailingClub.com.

See More Items Online!

For the Good of the Order

Putting the simulators to good use. A good example of how we can leverage the simulators and STEM USSailing curriculum to have a broad reach impact. (Pun intended LOL) More than 50 kids went sailing and more than a dozen learned enough in their time on the simulators to master the basics of sailing up wind on a triangle course. All participants learned to sail a two-turn reaching course.

We had everyone solo, but many also did two sailors with one on the rudder and one on the sail. It was great to see how quickly they learned the basics and how many came back multiple times to keep adding challenges and learn more. For three days (eight hours total) there were lines six students deep on each simulator waiting for their turn. I would guess there were more than 190 individual sailing cruises of about five minutes each. Plus, the students were still lined up at the end of each day. Mic Kaufman, Suzanne Hartley, Larry Knauer and Brent Coursman all did a great job for the three days of fevered sailing simulations. Thanks to Mike Zuilhof for help with transportation.



Responses to the State of Boating:

RESPONSE #1: I thought your comments in the January **Cross Bearings** were very interesting and I think you make some good points. I would just like to expand on what you wrote and offer a few suggestions.

The reason the marine industry has gone to manufacturing larger boats is the demand for smaller boats has fallen off considerably over the last 20 years. There are so many used boats 25' and under available on the market and sailors, being a frugal lot, would rather buy a used boat for a lot less money than a new boat even if it needs some work. Manufacturers cannot produce a 25' boat at a price point that provides a quality, affordable boat for the buyer and a reasonable return for the manufacturer. I attended a seminar at the Chicago Boat Show several years ago where John Kretschmer was the speaker. He said in the previous year, only about 1,200 production sail boats were sold. That doesn't leave much room in the production line for small boats. The only exception to this is Catalina which still makes a stripped down 22' and MacGregor which makes the 26' motor sailor.

Another reason affecting the marine industry and us in particular is that younger couples with children - the ones we need to attract to keep the club active and viable - are too busy

with work schedules and transporting their children to all the activities that they are involved in over the weekends. That leaves little time to maintain and sail a boat. Then there is the cost of boat ownership including maintenance, club fees and dock fees that make it difficult to fit into the budget of a young couple. That's why our new members tend to be older empty nesters. As you know, our club membership is significantly populated by older members; many of them have sold their boats and left the club during the last two years. There's not much we can do about that.

Filling those vacant 26' and 30' docks is going to be extremely difficult because of the reasons stated above. I think it's important that we look at other streams of income to keep the club viable. I know some members complain when we host regattas because it inconveniences them. However, we must continue to actively bring regattas to the club because they do increase our reputation in the sailing world and we do make money on them. One possibility to consider, and very likely controversial, is to begin to offer social memberships to people who do not have a boat. We could start small by having the club and the Dairy Bar open Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights from maybe 6:00 to 10:00. That would give us four nights, if you add in the Wednesday night the Dairy Bar is open for racing. Maybe have some food items available. This, of course, would require the employment of a part-time bartender. I might even know someone who would be interested in doing this. NOT ME! If it works well, it could be expanded to more nights, maybe year-round and some improvement in facilities. We may even get some people interested in sailing and getting a dock. Of course, this would require some marketing to make it happen. But NOT ME! I'm pretty long on ideas, but very short on making them happen.

In the two years that I have been a member, I have been less than impressed with the social environment of the club. Particularly this past year when I saw several Friday night events poorly attended. I have also noticed that when we do have larger social events like the potlucks for Memorial Day, Fourth of July and Labor Day, members tend to be very cliquey. Members tend to sit at tables with close friends and there doesn't seem to be much interaction. In my experience it was a difficult first year as I found it difficult to meet people and make friends. Also, I have noticed that the members who race on Wednesday nights have a beer, race, have some food and another beer then disappear until the next Wednesday. I don't have any ideas on how to change this, but we need to find some way to get the racers here more often and provide a more open social environment. Maybe the social memberships I talked about above would help.

As far as encouraging more participation in racing, I think we face the same problem I talked about above and that is the aging of the club. Racing is hard work and our older bodies, mine included, just can't do it anymore. Again, getting younger people in the club could be a solution. For those of us who travel longer distances to get to the club, it's hard to drive up to the club, race, eat and drive back home. Maybe Saturday races might get more participation. For the Sunday Fun races, maybe start a little later. I know, it's hard for me to get up, attend to personal needs, eat and rig the boat to be ready for an 8:30 race.

St. Patty's Day at the Sailing Club



When: Saturday March 16, 2019 @ 6:00pm

Cost: \$20/person. Profit will go towards the "RC Boat Repair Fund"

Meal: Traditional Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner, Potatoes, St. Patty's Day Appetizers, and Dessert

The Dairy Bar will be serving all of your favorite Irish concoctions including Guinness, Bass Ale, GL Conway's, Killian's, and an assortment of Irish whiskeys.

We will raffle a basket of craft beers and there will be prizes for Best Dressed!

RSVP: Jay Austin at jaustin6@kent.edu BY MARCH 2nd

"Work is the curse of the drinking class" – Oscar Wilde

And now the big issue, docks. I recognize the costs involved in re-aligning Springer's to accommodate larger boats. There are a few other solutions that I think could work. Last summer I presented a very preliminary drawing on how the sea wall by the Junior Sailing Program could be re-configured that would improve the use of the wall by the program and add eight new docks to accommodate larger boats. We could start out with two docks and then add as needed. Tim tells me that we lose on average six new members each year because they have larger boats. At \$2,500 per dock, that's \$15,000 we lose every year. I don't know how much this would cost so I can't say how long it would take to cover the initial investment and start profiting from it. Like I said, long on ideas, but not good on how to make it happen. Another possibility is to re-align our current docks to eliminate the 26' docks, move the 35' docks to the vacated area and add new longer docks to the area where the 35' docks used to be. Or just make the 35' docks longer. There are other possible configurations, but I think we have to accept the reality that we can't fill the smaller docks and we have to make the best use of our facility in the current environment.

RESPONSE #2:

When I arrived home the other night, I brought in the mail and noticed that the January *Cross Bearings* was among the mailings I had received. I read through it and was very disappointed to read the portion of your missive titled "Springer's Wharf."

While I laud the board for moving forward in the never ending process of replacing docks, I note that some of your "Third" supportive statement is not based in fact. For as long as I've been involved in the marine industry, now going on 50 years, I've watched a few factors influence the size of sailboats on the market:

The first has been driven by regulation and the cost of materials to assemble a new boat. They are intertwined – the regulations led to more expensive resins when controls on Styrene emissions were enforced so many years ago. Safety regulations added to production costs. It not only led to higher raw costs but the effort required to produce a hull and deck that was equal to prior finishing costs went up at the same time.

Secondly, and driven by the first, it became harder to produce a small (25-26') sailboat for much less than a medium size sailboat (32-33'). Customers making comparisons by "boat weight/size per dollar" recognized a comparatively better value in the larger boats. In doing so, they found the joy and entertainment of a dual purpose boat that could take the entire family for a shared adventure. The bulk of "affordable" smaller pocket cruisers is now in the brokerage market and crumbling through neglect.

Thirdly, the time available for sailing has been constantly driven down by the faster and faster pace of our lives on shore, leaving less time to spend on a boat. Nowhere is this more evident than with millennials who are constantly on the run.

Fourth, and possibly most importantly, the average age of the sailing community is increasing. Those of us who started decades ago in smaller one-design and small cruiser/racers (like a Cal 25) find ourselves more comfortable with the added stability of a larger boat. As we reach retirement and now have the time to stay on the boat and SLOW DOWN,

the dual purpose nature of a larger racer/cruiser has increased attractiveness.

The marine industry has FOLLOWED the trend for larger boats, not caused it. It is likely that the trend will not reverse itself despite many efforts in the industry to draw in and support programs designed to involve young kids in learning to sail and efforts to keep young adults involved during that period of their lives where they are starting to work, raising new families, and considering alternative kinds of entertainment.

For as long as I can remember (from the mid '70s) this has been an ongoing and seemingly unstoppable transition that we need to first understand and then address with new solutions. Blaming someone else (like the marine industry) will not only not help, but perhaps accelerate the process.

As I sat on the board of EYC for a dozen years, we were constantly making every effort to draw in more younger potential sailors and keep them involved as young adults every way that we could.

I hope that your generation has more success!

SSC online calendar - Tim has been making a concerted effort to keep the SSC online calendar current, making it a more useful tool when you're trying to find out what's going on at your club. Go to www.SanduskySailingClub.com, then to "Communities," then to "Events Calendar." Click on the event to get more info, contacts and links as well as any fliers available. Skippers, share this calendar with your crew so they know what's happening at SSC.

If you have an event you would like listed, contact Tim at manager@SanduskySailingClub.com or call 419-656-5881.

I-LYA news – Keep up with the latest news from the Inter-Lake Yachting Association, the governing body of local clubs, by subscribing to the I-LYA newsletter. Or view past newsletters at www.i-lya.org.

Sailing Stuff for Sale or to Buy

Emergency raft - \$300. Last certified 2012, expired 2014. Contact George Steinemann at 419-341-0639 or email gsteinemann@civista.bank

2006 Laser - No trailer, very good condition. \$1800. Contact PC John Heilman at 419-656-5022 or Patty Heilman at 419-656-2337.

Interlake Sails - Main and jib. Lightly used one season. \$1,000 or BO. Call Pete 419-366-8358 or email.pgrant@bex.net

Scott's sailing stuff for sale - New and like new. This is just a partial list. Contact Scott for a full list. More new stuff next month.
NEW Forespar 12" hatch with screen (in box) = \$25. New 8" screw down access hatches (2) = \$10ea. New 3" vents: 2 white, 2 black, 2 SS = \$2ea
Various deck blocks, flat, standing, plate extenders, whole bag = \$10.
Shower handset, sump box w/ pump = \$8. Older set dingy running lites - battery type = \$8. Hobie double-trapeze w/ bucket seats, hardware = \$10.
5' aluminum dock pole, extends to 10' = \$12. New deck mop = \$5.
Collection of Practical Sailor mags. App 50+ paper box full = \$25
CONTACT INFO: Scott Kibler, 419-566-7781 or wskibler@embarqmail.com. Feel free to make offer or buy lots of stuff and get a better deal.

Interlake with trailer - Two sets of sails. For info contact Richard Byrd at 216-533-6209 or alphabyrd@gmail.com

1975 Cal 3-30 Pollinator - 30ft racer/cruiser. Roller furler. Sleeps six. Updated cushions and upholstery. Atom 4 cyl. gas engine. New mainsail with large sail inventory. Cradle and winter cover. Many extras. Ready to race or cruise. Asking \$3,500. Inspect at SSC dock A17. Contact Daryl Deering at 419-656-5679 or daryldeering@hotmail.com.

Interlake Hull #972 - Yellow hull, white seated deck. Deck replaced by CustomFlex. SS centerboard, cut-down trunk with teak trim. All new foam floatation by CustomFlex. Carbon spin pole, CustomFlex rudder, most hardware and lines replaced. North main and jib, several other sets of sails and spinnakers. Trailer in great shape, bearing buddies and good tires. \$1800 or make offer. Call Rich Wismer at 440-308-6834, rwismer972@gmail.com Located in North Ridgeville, near Lorain.

16' 1958 Lyman with 1961 35 HP Evinrude Lark outboard and trailer. New marine mahogany ply decks professionally installed this last winter. Transom, ribs and board are all good. \$3,000. Email john@firelandslocal.com. Phone 419-706-5137.

Aluminum spinnaker pole - Double-ended, 11' fixed length eye to eye, 3" dia. Upper bridle missing, lower bridle end requires reattachment. \$25. Delivery possible. Call Bill Nixon 614-481-7827, text 614-395-6563.

Seabiscuit, O'Day 34, \$25,900 - Well maintained boat, consistently improved and loved by current owners. Call or email Jim Priebe @ 440-781-9618 or jpsailinghorse@yahoo.com for a complete list of improvements and upgrades.

J/24 for sale - 1979. Set up for single-handed, MORC or one-design. Good sails and rigging. Fair trailer. Boat is in good condition - bottom needs attention; it has been blasted and is ready for sanding and bottom paint. \$3,250. Contact PC Park McRitchie at park@quikspray.com

1987 Hunter 31 - Excellent condition. Several sets of sails recently inspected and repaired. Yanmar 2GM20F 2 cyl. diesel. Sale includes steel cradle and many extras. Ready to cruise or race. Asking \$20,000. Racing sails are available for extra \$. Contact Rory Carpenter at 734-660-1517.



Phil Montgomery and Ryan Kyle train new mid-crew.

Learn to Sail, The Foundry and Adaptive Adventures share a booth at the Cleveland Boat Show.