

SIDEWINDER

NEWSLETTER

PUBLICATION OF THE UNITED STATES SIDEWINDER ASSOCIATION

July 1974

Editor: Pat Schroth, Fleet #1

Please send items for next issue to 41 West High Street
Union City, Pa. 16438

The Score:

Numbered Sidewinders - 1820

Chartered Fleets - 15

Regattas for Sidewinders

DISTRICT 4 - OKLAHOMA - KANSAS

July 13-14 Norman, Oklahoma

Thunderbird Lake

Contact Bob Rogers

8113 N.W. 29th St.

Oklahoma City, Okla. 73008

DISTRICT 1 - MICHIGAN & WESTERN OHIO

July 27-28 Monroe Boat Club, Lake Erie

Monroe, Michigan

Contact Don Thurber

318 Humphrey St.

Monroe, Michigan 48161

DISTRICT 8 - NEW YORK STATE & OPEN

August 4 Cross Lake Marina, Meridian

Contact Steve Keenan

Box 11

Meridian, N. Y. 13113

Tel. 315/626-6475

FLEET 15 INVITATIONAL

July 13-14 Cadillac-Mitchell YC

Contact Robert Cole

PO Box 329

Cadillac, Michigan 49601

DISTRICT 2 - EASTERN OHIO & PENNA.

Late September - date not decided

Prince Galatzin State Park

18 Miles westerly of Altoona

Contact Steve Park

537 Kemmerer Road

State College, Pa. 16801

ASSOCIATED YACHT CLUBS OF WESTERN

LAKE ERIE OPEN REGATTA SERIES

Contact Don Thurber

318 Humphrey St.

Monroe, Michigan 48161

July 27-28

Monroe BC

Sept. 7-8

Maumee River YC

Oct. 5-6

Port Clinton YC

XX

X X

X National Championship X

X (open to all members) X

X X

X August 17-18 X

X Cross Lake Marina X

X Meridian, New York X

X see pp. 5-6-7 this newsletter X

X X

XX

EVERY Regatta committee likes PRE-REGISTRATION. If in order to attend, you truly MUST decide at the last minute, please at least phone ahead as you leave home. Every SIDEWINDER is wanted and welcome. The organizers plan for fun and are always anxious that sufficient provisions be on hand. And, the Class Secretary doesn't get to all Regattas, so get your card early. Thanks.

If you get this in time to dash off to Cadillac, Michigan July 13-14 -- the YC is at 410 South St. Turn west off U.S. 131 about 2½ blocks. Registration is 7-9 Friday evening and 8-9 Saturday morning. \$10.00 race fee. No camping facilities at YC. Catered lunch Saturday noon, no other meals. Mr. Cole did not give us a phone number, but most of you had his mailing address in the last newsletter.

The newspaper called us "Side Winners":

The Erie Open regatta attracted Sidewinders from Niagara Falls, Cleveland, Akron and locally. Chris Bloomstine was first, Fred Schroth second, and Mel Flood third. Every home fleet invited visitors of its class, and Sidewinder was the second Biggest one-design fleet among at least ten kinds. We figure over a hundred Sidewinders within convenient travel distance and hope more can plan to come next year....likely the same first week-end in June.

Another early regatta is held at Berlin, Ohio. Communication stunk this year, and as far as we know Sidewinders did not participate. Their rule is three boats make a fleet IF PRE-REGISTERED, and they buy trophies for fleets according to how many pre-register. Their YC lawn becomes a tent-city surrounding a perpetual volleyball game, and their race courses are interesting. Watch the winter newsletters.

We didn't edit something out: we have not received results from the Oklahoma-Texas contest June 1-2.

Ben Sanders, Jr. writes from Pawhuska, Oklahoma of 3 Sidewinders in the Ponca Sailing Club. In addition to their regular races, they "compete successfully in large handicap fleets from Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma and Texas."

L. Costa and Wm. D. Rutledge sent address changes indicating homes within range of the Nationals. See you there?

Dues-paying members are the only kind of members there are. One year's dues was (were?) included when you bought your NEW Sidewinder from a dealer -- ONE year. Coupon on the last page for everybody else. All clear?

As I sit here with my left arm in a splint, let me inform you that after 15 years of crewing, I've been told it was not necessary for me to break, sprain and strain my wrist to win that race in a 20 knot wind. "To uncleat the jib to tack in heavy air, the timing is of more importance than in lesser blows. Thus, when coming about, the jib sheet is yanked out of its cleat the split second AFTER the wind pressure starts to ease - - then scramble to the other side and reset BEFORE the jib fills on the new course." Well, that's the theory. /ps/

Reading newsletters from several other classes prompts me to say:

One-design sailboat racing is first a companionable recreational sport with the objective of comparing the skill of people using similar equipment. Our Sidewinder class stock boat is raceable and not expensive. All the "nickel and dime" gadgetry ease in our rules won't win you a race unless you know how to decide which trimmings to add AND then use them skillfully. Nobody can tinker in the garage all winter to buy a fanny that doesn't sit on the sheets. Money won't unwrap a jib sheet from the crew's ankle or adjust the sails to a small wind shift. Money won't remember to spend itself for a retainer for sunglasses or close the bailer when the wind speed drops. Almost always the sailors' skills are more important than gadgetry. But if convenience gadgetry is good for your psyche, Sidewinder Class allows you a little leeway for the exercise of ingenuity. Let the big stuff alone. /ps/

LETTER FROM SECRETARY, MALVENE HILL

"The Great Bird God NAYRU came down from his lofty perch and called a conference for non-Olympic one-design class leaders. After the initial shock of finding out the Great One is really a bunch o' very nice people and not the imaginary navy blue blazer, white flannel, New York Yacht Club type, we got down to the business of what this meeting was all about.

"The NAYRU Class Association leaders' conference was held in Washington, D.C., over the week-end of April 6-7 of this year. The objective of this meeting was to promote cooperation among classes and NAYRU and forming a committee of class officers within the structure of NAYRU's class racing committee. Probably the most important by-product of this conference will be the eventual establishment of a forum for the exchange of ideas between established classes and the new ones struggling along.

"The June issue of YACHTING has a very informative article by Ellen Moran on this meeting --see page 32. She quotes Carl Van Dyne, well known author of YACHTING's "Racing Clinic", who was in Washington. He sure knows how to put those words together to make them come out right. "The agenda devoted about equal time to information exchange and roundtable discussions. The information exchange permitted Bill Bentsen, NAYRU's Director for Class Racing, to explain what NAYRU does for one-design sailors and it gave the class administrators a chance to suggest what NAYRU could do for them."

"That in a nutshell is the beginning of another new era in sailing. We met many fine people and left Washington with the feeling that no matter what temporary state the Union is in at the present, it is never-the-less temporary.

"And now for our more immediate affairs. Keep those DUES coming. Our association is by far one of the fastest growing in the country and will soon be a very important competitive class as recognizable as the reknowned Snipe. Don't forget to take your Sidewinder along when you want to go Snipe hunting. That's an inside to our Walter.

"Prepare yourselves for a rousing good time at CROSS LAKE, N. Y. for our Nationals. And if that ain't enough -- have a cruising good time and good luck! STEVE KEENAN is working very hard for you.

"If it takes a little longer for your ole pal Mal to get your memberships out, please forgive. The coccyx is busted and it hurts like &%\$# and worst luck I'm beached for the season. Happy Sailing anyway... /Mal/

Last year's patches from the Nationals are "still hung up".

Monroe BC Sidewinder sailors are using their experience in some high-level competition:

Noel Thurber, Leslie Hill and Tom Potkova will sail together in a Thistle at Put-in-Bay's Junior Race Week the end of July hoping to win the quarter finals toward the Sear's Cup.

Natalie Hill is teaching sailing with Sidewinder, Copperhead and Man O' War sailboats at Camp Fire Girls Camp Towanka, at Irish Hills, Brooklyn, Michigan.

HI, SAILORS,

Most of you have copies of the Constitution and By-Laws where it applies to changes allowed or disallowed in your Sidewinders. But many of you have a previously owned boat and may not have seen the specifications or prohibitions. So Neal Thurber and I thought it would be a good idea to give it a quick rundown -- particularly with the Nationals close at hand. So here we go:

Section 11. PROHIBITIONS:

Prohibited from use on sanctioned SIDEWINDER events are:

1. Sails other than those supplied by the manufacturer.
2. Spars other than those supplied by the manufacturer.
3. Centerboard, rudder blades other than those supplied by the manufacturer.
4. Wire halyards.
5. Outriggers.
6. Ballast in the boat or carried by the crew.
7. Any apparatus or contrivance that would assist in supporting the crew or helmsman outboard of the sheer line.
8. Deck splashers.

ADDITIONS to Section 10 (which, in general, specifies that the boat is to remain exactly as the manufacturer made it in items A, B, and C.)

- D. The maximum allowable overall length for the spinnaker pole shall be 68".
- E. The maximum allowable overall length for the whisker pole shall be 80".
- F. Adjustable jib leads are permissible.
- G. Adjustable outhauls and boom vang are permissible.
- H. Mainsheet jammers may be replaced.
- I. The centerboard and rudder may be covered with protective paint or teflon.

THERE ARE ALSO the following rulings in force made by Chief Measurer, Neal Thurber or by his predecessor, Joe Farago.

1. Mainsheet travellers may not be used.
2. Spinnaker launchers which do not alter the hull shape may be used.
3. Jib luff tensioners may be used.
4. Mainsail luff tensioners (Cunningham devices) may not be used.
(downhaul is standard)
5. Although halyards must be made of rope, it is permissible to stop the main halyard short at the masthead by using a halyard hook high on the mast to catch a knot high on the halyard.
6. Hiking straps may be relocated anywhere in the cockpit.
7. Windows may be sewed into sails.

That should give all of us enough to do for a while.

HAPPY SAILING!

/Walter Schroth/

A chartered Fleet is three or more Sidewinders in a District by "suitable application" to the Governing Board. Some areas are not yet defined as Districts, no matter now. Write Malvene about your members, Fleet Captain and Secretary.

1 9 7 4 S I D E W I N D E R N A T I O N A L C H A M P I O N S H I P R E G A T T A
(and annual meeting)

CROSS LAKE MARINA -- CROSS LAKE -- Meridian, New York -- August 17-18

Schedule of Events

FRIDAY - Aug. 16

- 4 PM - registration opens
- 7-11 - Bonfire, Hot dog roast
Volleyball game
Sailing movies provided
by Dick Gibbs
- 9 PM - Governing Board Meets

SATURDAY - Aug. 17.

- 8-9:30 - Registration
- 9:30 - SKIPPERS MEETING
- RACE
- LUNCH
- RACE
- RACE
- 4-5:30 Fishing Derby, age 12
and under. PRIZE, bring
your own pole
- 6 PM Buffet on marina, lawn keg of
beer available
- 8-11 music and dancing LAWN PARTY
provide own refreshments
- 8-9 ANNUAL MEETING
in marina snack bar

SUNDAY - Aug. 18

- 10 - SKIPPERS MEETING
- RACE
- LUNCH
- RACE
- AWARDS

Contact Steve Keenan

Box 11
Meridian, N. Y. 13113
Tel. 315/626-6475

MAKE YOUR OWN ADVANCE RESERVATIONS for
lodgings:

Marshall Manor (motel)
Route 31, Weedsport, N. Y. near
Thruway Exit #40, 8 miles from race
Tel. 315/834-9495

Port 40 Motel
Route 34, Weedport, N. Y. near
Thruway Exit #40, miles from race
Tel. 315/834-9198

Holiday Inn West
Thruway Exit #39 14 miles from race
Tel. 315/457-8700

Sunset Park Campgrounds, Sprague Road
Plainville, N. Y., overlooks race
courses from across Cross Lake.
Tel. 315/635-6450

Limited tent sites available at
marina "no charge" if arranged with
Steve Keenan.
Tel. 315/626-6475

TROPHY LIST:

- * 1st Skipper's name to be engraved on permanent
trophy on display at Erie YC.
- * Keepers for skippers AND crews of first TEN
Sidewinders
- * Sidewinder that comes furthest.
- * Visiting Chartered Fleet with most boats
racing in Nationals.
- * Fun awards IF SOMEBODY BRINGS THEM??

NOTE: \$15.00 ADVANCE REGISTRATION FEE IF RECEIVED AT CROSS LAKE BY TUESDAY, AUGUST 13.
Registrations paid at the regatta will cost \$18.00. Registration fee includes:
Friday night hot dog roast for skipper and crew. Box lunches Sat. & Sun. for
skipper and crew. Decal for stern of boat. Children's fishing derby and above
trophy list. Dance band for Saturday night.

NOT INCLUDED in registration fee: Saturday night buffet \$3.50 per adult, \$1.75 per child under 10 years. Lunches for non-sailors.

There is no arrangement at the marina for breakfast, so plan to bring your picnic, go to town or go without.

CROSS LAKE is a small "Finger Lake" about 24 miles west of Syracuse.

The Keenans' marina is near the north-west end of the lake, down a gently sloping lane from the road that connects the towns of Meridian and Jordan.

They have picnic grounds, snack bar, sail repair, baby sitter, limited tenting, wading area, rest rooms, dressing rooms, beach style launching.

There are now enough docks for a much larger National Regatta than last year. The picnic shelter is new, too.

For the races there will be new buoys, and beyond each mark they plan to anchor a sailboat with some high-visibility object high in its rigging. You will know where you are going and thus be able to concentrate on sailing to get there.

The Inland Marine Company of Wilkes-Barre, Pa. is furnishing an AVON SEA RIDER with crew to serve as crash boat for the Sidewinder Nationals. This is a big rubber life boat with motor and fiber glass keel, should be something to see! Hope nobody needs help.

In case of rain, the events planned for outdoors will be held in the large new-type barn from which the marina business is usually done. Hopefully, all problems have been accounted for.

ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

Proposals:

1. \$5.00 annual dues buys annual directory, copy of by-laws, newsletters, eligibility to compete in sanctioned regattas, voting rights, membership card.
2. Add Chief Measurer's rulings to Specifications.
3. Elect District Secretaries to serve as communication links to Governing Board.
4. The Manufacturer shall be permitted to design a one-piece mast.
- * Election of officers.

*** According to Constitution and By-Laws, if any of the above proposals is approved at the Annual Meeting, the MEMBERS are then to be polled for a vote by mail,

Racing isn't the only way to use a Sidewinder; how about letting us know how the rest of you use your boats? We'll print until we're overwhelmed--try us!