

SIDEWINDER

NEWSLETTER

PUBLICATION OF THE UNITED STATES SIDEWINDER ASSOCIATION

President - Walter Schroth
41 West High Street, Union City, Pennsylvania 16438

Editor - Pat Schroth

5 July 1975

P.I.

Hello, hello. New owners are joining now with boats numbered from the fourteen hundreds well into the eighteen hundreds. Thus there are plenty of owners out there who are already interested in racing situations, who might be interesting, and some others who will choose to be left out. Let's each be sure to do what we can that no one feels pushed out.....or neglectfully omitted.

1975 Membership figures: Canada 1, California 3, Connecticut 1, Florida 2, Idaho 1, Iowa 1, Illinois 1, Indiana 5, Massachusetts 4, Maine 1, Maryland 1, Michigan 30, Minnesota 6, New York 47, New Jersey 11, Ohio 17, Oklahoma 6, Pennsylvania 46, North Carolina 2, South Carolina 2, Texas 2, Wisconsin 2, Washington 1, Virginia 3, Vermont 1.

* * * * * Nationals - August 16-17 -----Registrations ABSOLUTELY must be received by August first: decide promptly & send in.

Any Member may go to the National Meeting Saturday afternoon.
Anyone may go as a SPECTATOR and is encouraged to do so! If you want to stay for the barbeque - reserve ahead.

All this early registration business is purposive: so the money can come out even. There have been cost overruns other years.

Financially, "1975" started with some supplies. So far, \$58.03 has been spent for stamps, postals and postage-due. \$11.17 went for the name rubber stamp and 600 envelopes. \$100 was advanced for preparations for the Nationals. A fund will have to be built up for an order of patches, for one thing. This Newsletter will require purchase of more stamps. 128 renewal memberships.

NATIONAL MEETING AGENDA: Zero mail has reached Walter about anything YOU want on the agenda. However, Neal Thurber said over the phone that he is not to be depended upon to continue as Chief Measurer. The president's term runs another year. The secretary gets elected this year regardless. Thus the meeting needs to elect two officers. (Campaign speech: "I, Pat Schroth, like doing all this and ask you to vote for me to do the Secretary's job officially.") Walter wants the Fleets and groups to come prepared with nominations for Chief Measurer. Business: Does anyone object if Ohio forms its own District?

IGNORE AT YOUR OWN PERIL: Lash your boat whenever you leave it - to prevent storm damage.
Tie ends of all lines in boat for during sailing.

WANTED FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER: Awards banquet ideas old and new.
Results & whatever else from all regattas.
Continued correspondence of opinions & suggestions.
Fleets and other sailing.

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The North American Yacht Racing Union NAYRU has changed its name to United States Yacht Racing Union, Inc. USYRU. Within that organization is a "one design class council". Details are being finalized on qualification for a class to be "recognized".....Sidewinder HAS BEEN "sailing three years in the United States". Next they expect at least 250 active boats. 1975 Sidewinder MEMBERSHIP just this week passed 200. Their literature did not specify a working definition of "active". They plan 7 regions in the nation, and a recognized class needs 30 active boats AND at least 3 fleets with 10 or more boats for each region for which recognition is granted. We have a ways to go.

Sidewinder Association recognizes a fleet of three members...."SIGN IN, PLEASE." There are many survival and development patterns; one purpose of this Newsletter is to expose the array for your possible use.

*United States Yacht Racing Union
1133 Avenue of the Americas, New York NY 10036

Racing Rules \$3.00 each
lots of ten or more \$2.25 each
Air Mail add 15¢ each copy

Race Committee Manual \$6.75 - 50¢ extra for Air Mail

Membership: Regular \$15 under 21 - \$5 (rules included)

FOR SALE:

Sidewinder # 443 (hull # 582). Complete with jib, no trailer.
Boat has been used only the summers of '71 & '72. Very good condition.
Asking \$800. James F. Cain 216-788-2437 day phone
Lake Park Tool & Machine Co., Inc.
1221 Velma Court, Youngstown, Ohio 44512

The following have talked of selling their boats, perhaps have done so already:
Chris & Beth Bloomstine, 4204 French St., Erie, PA 16504
Thomas Dmoch, 2301 Brownwall, Flint, Michigan
Dayle Koky, 1479 Gleenwood, Pontiac, Michigan
Vincent Winkler-Prins, 185 Ottawa, Pontiac, Michigan
Francene Schweickert, 19814 Tireman, Detroit, Michigan 48228
Bill Kropf, 4472 Ardmore, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48013

SPINNAKERS.....? The aquisition of one is between you and your Dealer. There is no pre-sale literature to be got for you. There is no way to choose your own colors; this is done according to fabric availability and cutting possibilities. They are all the same size and shape. Retail List Price as recently as June '75 was \$135 PLUS shipping to your dealer.

Some sailors stow the spinnaker in the crew cockpit. Some stow them in a cavity with hatch cover open. Some make a tube to lay ON the deck. Newsletter wants to publish the full sequence of procedure of hoisting and dousing, please.

Editor as crew suggests: dye the lines red and green. Also early-on replace the eye high on the mast with a roller type fitting to make hoisting easier.

RUDDER HARD TO PULL UP.....? First ascertain HOW it works. Consider scouring the two rubbing surfaces with soap-type steel wool. Consider grease, and if used remember not to soil hands accidentally. Check whether bent. If problem persists, use purple language and resume TLC. Perhaps replace.

DESCRIPTION OF FLEET # 7, LAKE GLENDALE, PENNSYLVANIA:

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Captain: Herman Slaybaugh Secretary: Larry Booth
Actively racing: 14 Sidewinders USSWA Members affiliated: 16
ORGANIZATION: Fleet # 7 is part of the Lake Glendale Sailing Club (LGSC).
To become an active member of Fleet #7, one must pay LGSC membership dues of \$10.00
To be eligible to race, one can either pay \$1.50 per race or one lump sum of \$7.50
at the beginning of the year. All money goes to the LGSC which handles all the
racing and other activities including trophies for the Sidewinder class. There are
twelve scheduled Sunday races each year. This arrangement works out nicely since
it really leaves little for the Fleet # 7 officers to do but race and participate
on race committee from time to time. We hold occasional informal get-togethers and
meetings when the need arises or the spirit moves us. Otherwise, we participate
mainly as members of the Lake Glendale Sailing Club, as do the Thistle, Pintail,
Lightning and all other fleets at the lake.

One thing that has helped us recruit members is our close ties with the local MFG
dealer. Whenever he sells a new Sidewinder he tells the new owner all about us and
vice versa. One of the members then attempts to contact or get together with the
new owner and let him/her know we'd like to have him/her join us. We give him/her
all the help we can in learning to sail and race his/her new boat. In this way
everybody benefits. The new sailor learns faster and the "old" sailors get a new
and friendly competitor./LB

DESCRIPTION OF FLEET # 15, CADILLAC, MICHIGAN

On being a successful fleet - ? Well, back in the late 1960's I bought # 135, and
at that time there were perhaps only three Sidewinders in the area. MFG had a
dealership with Mr. W. A. Fellows, and there were other MFG boats on the lake.
Most of the Sidewinder owners are fairly sports minded -- sail other boats, ski,
cycle, and enjoy out-of-door activities. The local club has tried "E" Scows,
Lightnings, Butterflies, and M-16's as a local class boat. As most sailors are
independent, there was no real strong sense of direction toward any one sailboat
class - yet everyone wanted to race in one class with a reasonable number of boats
participating. The Sidewinder had and has the appeal of being easy to move from
lake to lake, has a mainsail, jib, and spinnaker to allow one the fundamentals, it
performs well, it can be sailed alone or with a crew, is fiberglass, and is priced
in the range that can attract people interested in getting involved with sailing.
In addition, enthusiasm is catching! Others have seen the fun, the races, and
the activities involved in sailing on our local inland lake and wanted to parti-
cipate also. There are Sidewinders in the area who do not sail with us nor do
they care to be members of our fleet.

To date, we have not had any general meetings of the Fleet -- just informal
meetings at the club. We had no local Sidewinder dues and no fund raising events.
Most of us are dues paying members of our Cadillac-Mitchell Yacht Club./RC

Fleet Captain: Dr. Lawrence Garber Chief Measurer: Larry Schmida
Fleet Secretary: Robert Cole USSWA Members affiliated: 22

DESCRIPTION OF FLEET # 13, CROSS LAKE, NEW YORK

The Side W. Fleet # 13 at Cross Lake has grown to 12 boats this year, though our
first race drew only half the fleet. The persons to contact are Joe & Dodie DeVine,
Apt. A-17 Cedarwood Blvd., Baldwinsville, NY 13027. They are super enthusiastic.
They are making the fleet go. The SW's on Cross Lake race about every Sunday with
the Cross Lake Sail Assoc. race time 1:30 PM - 2 races - visitors welcome.
Sidewinders have their own fleet start. The owners here are all putting on
out haul adjusters as the big weapon and spinnakers when available. We work at
getting local owners out to meet each other./SK (USSA membership not checked)

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OKLAHOMA REPORT:

"Dear Sidewinder Persons:

Thank you so much for all your help in the effort to find owners. I can give you the names and/or other identifiers of some of the active sailors who are racing their boats either in local club activity or CSSA sponsored regattas. Most of the names included are of sailors in two Sidewinder groups; one located in Norman-Oklahoma City, sailing on Lake Thunderbird and a second group located in Ponca City and nearby towns, sailing at Lake Ponca.

"We will know more about Texas Sidewinder activities when we return from sailing the Tornado CB Nationals Championship in Fort Worth June 19-20-21.

"We plan to sail two events this year. The District-Regional will be sailed at Norman, Oklahoma August 16-17 at the same time as the Central States Sailing Association Late Summer Regatta. This regatta will be followed by the Oklahoma State Championship Regatta to be sailed during the Ponca City Sailing Club's Cherokee Strip Regatta on September 6 - 7th.

"Additional stuff for the Newsletter includes the following: The Oklahoma, Kansas, Missouri and Texas geographic area are joined by the Central States Sailing Association with 35 member clubs. The organization sponsors 5 large regattas April through October, also Sears, Malory, and Adams Cup competitions for Area F of USYRU. Sidewinders have been represented for the last two years in the CSSA racing winning several handicap trophies from large aggressive fleets. Sailors who have picked up hardware include Mike Hardiman # 1032 of Wichita, Kansas, Pat Werner of Midwest City, Oklahoma, 1974 District Champ, and Ben Sanders, Pawhuska, Oklahoma. This is first rate racing but we need more Sidewinder activity to get out of mixed boat racing."
/s/ Ben Sanders

"PS. I know of no travellers to the East for the Nationals. If you could meet us half-way next year we would probably get a turnout."/BS

→ WANTED: TO FORM FLEETS

"Hello Sailors. I'm looking for people with Sidewinders on Keuka Lake (west-central New York State) who are interested in starting a Fleet. In order to have a registered Fleet in the U.S. Sidewinder Association three boats are needed. My intention is to try and start racing sometime on weekends. I don't want to give anyone the impression that this will be a hot shot racing fleet, on the contrary I hope it will be a relaxed, exciting and learning venture all at the same time. If anyone is interested please contact me Sundays at the Keuka address or at home during the week. Thanks a Lot, See you sailing.

/s/ Alan T. Peck"

65 Nob Hill, Rochester New York 14617 716-544-4212
390 West Lake Road, Branchport, New York, 607-868-3264

Inland south-east Michigan - contact Tom Helfrich, Camp de Sales, Brooklyn, Michigan, 49230

St. Paul - Minneapolis - western Wisconsin AREA - a group of Sidewinders has formed in a new sailing club loosely connected with Candlemas dealership at Afton, Minnesota on the river border between the states. An open regatta is planned for anyone who can attend. Most owners in the area are not Members yet this season....therefore uninformed!...of their activities or the Association's.

TRAVEL PLANS 1975

July 12-13 - Monument Beach, Massachusetts. Lin Perry, the host, wanted all registrations in by July first. If you want to go, it's up to Lin. Try phoning Perry's Boat Yard, 420 Shore Road, Monument Beach, Mass. 02553. Last Newsletter had a phone number: 617-759-3062. He sent a different phone number (on direct mailers to probable travellers in the North-East) which is unavailable now. The entry fee is \$2. Sailing place Phinneys Harbor, probably in the north-east of Buzzard's Bay....is that Cape Cod? Two Saturday races, one Sunday.

July 12 - Lake MacMurray, Stillwater, Oklahoma. Campout.
Contact: Ben Sanders Jr. Rt. 1, Box 105
Pawhuska, Oklahoma 74056 918-287-1977

July 26-27 - "Sidewinder invitational" with Cadillac-Mitchell Yacht Club Cadillac, Michigan. Any SIDEWINDER is welcome to join us for our Invitational! Registration fee \$5.00. Mail registrations to: Mr. Robert Cole, PO Box 329, Cadillac, Michigan 49601 His phone number is: 616-775-3493. There are no camping facilities at the Yacht Club. (You won't believe how small it is!) We do have camping facilities in the area, and a map and directions will be sent to people who register early. We'd prefer registration by mail -- but latecomers can register Friday evening or early Saturday morning. General directions to the Trisail Marina are to turn WEST at the Cadillac Square Shopping Center onto South Street at the south end of downtown Cadillac, and go about three blocks. Cadillac is a small town, and those new to the area should NOT have trouble. We will post some signs. Skippers' Meetings at 9:30 AM both mornings. "Lunch available on premises at noon (or thereabouts) Saturday!" 2 races Saturday, 1 Sunday. (Suggestion: Minnesotans and upper Wisconsin people may prefer the northern route! Expect tolls about three times the amount to go around Chicago, but a much shorter trip.)

August 2 - SATURDAY - Cross Lake, New York. District 8 NEW YORK STATE Championship. NOT open to residents of any other state.
Contact: Steve Keenan, Cross Lake Marina
Meridian, New York 13113 315-626-6475
Location: slightly west of Syracuse. Camping at the scene WITH PERMISSION. Reasonable motels not too far.

August 16 - 17 - Norman, Oklahoma - District-Regional
Contact Ben Sanders Jr. See address above.

* * * * * August 16 - 17 - NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP & ANNUAL MEETING - 16 lovely awards (top 8 boats Lake Glendale in Pennsylvania near Altoona, 5 motels. ABSOLUTE deadline for registration: August 1. This has been written-up quite fully in the March & May Newsletters. CAMPING FEE checks should now be made to Herman Slaybaugh because he can sign you in at the State Park OR a nearby private campground according to availability. LAUNCHING fee is \$2 for everyone and covers the remainder of the season at any PA State water. Your license plate#(&state) is needed for this. The regatta fee is \$15. Thus, you must send \$17. The Saturday evening event including supper is \$2.50 each big person, and \$1.50 for each little person under 12. The ANNUAL MEETING is planned for after the Saturday racing and before the eating. Three races Saturday, two Sunday. Lunch for skipper and crew both days is included in your fee. LARRY BOOTH, 537 Bloomfield Avenue, Apt. 17, Johnstown, Pa. 15904 Evening phone: ~~224-224-1111~~ 814-266-4414

* carry membership card!

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TRAVEL PLANS 1975 - continued

September 6 - 7 - Oklahoma State Championship Regatta
part of: Cherokee Strip Regatta
Ponca City, Oklahoma.
Contact: Ben Sanders Jr., See address above.

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Date unknown: inquire Candlemas Marina, Afton, Minnesota.
Try to reach the secretary of the sailing club.

* * * * NEXT NEWSLETTER - - - Please try to gather full information about any late season events and get them in by the end of August.

* * * You ALL have been invited to drop in and go sailing with the regular sailors at Cadillac and Cross Lake.

The Sidewinders on Cross Lake race about every Sunday with the Cross Lake Sailing Association: race time 1:30 PM. Two races. Visitors welcome.

At Cadillac, the regular race schedule is for racing July 6, 13, Aug 10, 24, and Sept 7. August 9 is a nite race. August 2, 17, & Sept 1 remain of their summer schedule. They didn't say what time....so if you want to sail with them, contact Bob Cole as for their regatta July 26-27.

SUMMARY of a fabulous pile of mail from Ken Walker, near Detroit, Michigan: He publishes a fine local newsletter with purple ditto duplication. One issue included race results from the group's recent outing of five Sidewinders. This listing was complete with sail numbers to match names. There was a list of over thirty owners who had not given the club members the brush-off. Thus any member with a few available ergs could try his/her methods of inviting sailors to sail.

There was next his fervent plea to all to TELL THE SECRETARY when a boat is bought or sold used. We want non-owners off our lists and owners on our lists. * * * * SURE a lot of owners don't want to race or have to do with the Association, but secretaries need to know which is which TO AVOID MANY KINDS OF WASTE.

Fleet # 5 dues are \$10.00 to cover trophies, one of which is a Best Novice Award. Then there was a 2-page digest of the racing rules used most frequently. Another issue gives their schedule which includes most Sundays from May 25 through Oct. 5. They sail on two bodies of water, and different classes provide the Race-Committee personnel in a scheduled rotation....each class serving twice a summer. Fleet # 5 is thinking: someone has proposed awards for: Best Novice, Best Crew, Last Place Prize, Perfect Attendance, Most Capsizes. Their dues include payment to what looks like a kind of parks department for permits. They have established contact with their CITY newspaper to publish race results!

ERIE OPEN REPORT

Eleven Sidewinders were registered for June 7-8. All were Pennsylvanians except Mel Flood. Mel has been to all Erie Opens since he got his Sidewinder, travelling from the Carolinas, Pittsburgh, Cleveland, and this year FROM IDAHO. His boat had been parked in Illinois. Saturday morning dawned with a sky of Oxford gray. The atmospheric motion resembled an exopress freight train; the waves were 2 to 3 ft. The starting conditions were hairy: a swamped Thistle with a broken mast is so encouraging (y' know). Fred Schroth capsized before the start, no problem, went on to finish second after Walter. Parks girls were third. Most of the fleet preferred landlubbing while the wind continued to enjoy upsetting Lasers. Fred beat his dad the second race. Sunday was a teensy bit more pleasant, and all but three registrants participated. Carol Park skippered the winning boat, to make the overall results: 1) Fred Schroth 836, 2) Walter Schroth 13, 3) Carol Park 1200, 4) Bub Cochran 852, 5) Mel Flood 556. Also present: Larry Booth, Bob Phillips, Dennis Chronister, Herman Slaybaugh, Sam Kerr, Rich LaFountain. Fleet # 7 also brought along friends to sail in two other classes.

The Erie Open, with its big wind conditions, was a great chance to learn some lessons. First, what is winning? That Saturday it was staying right side up. One boat got a broken stay, and the skipper thought to use the spinnaker halyard as a partial substitute. Another boat capsized and the hatch covers popped off and floated or sunk away, gone. Lesson two: ask around when you need parts, perhaps someone has them or can arrange to get what you need. One for sure and maybe two crews did not level with the skippers about swimming ability and the amount of their fear of the sailing. You won't be exaggerating if you imagine what happened when a non-swimmer wearing a life jacket panicked when both he and his skipper lost hold of the boat. A power-boater got there in time.

The other page didn't say, but the temperature was below 60°F. Enough of you have seen me chicken out at the sight of big wind on somebody else's lake....yes.... this time I didn't. I am positive that I am not the only one whose fear quotient multiplies astronomically in the presence of the least chill. I am equally certain that some of you think it's nobly brave to lie and pretend it isn't so. However, my solution is WOOL SWEATERS plural to wear under my rain-jacket. The Monday after that regatta I went to the local Salvation Army store and bought all they had - 4. Sure, synthetics can be dried by machine, but the wool holds the rain-jacket away from the skin and does not get clammy. I also wear winter hats for being crew. Sure the skipper can steer to avoid some dousings of the crew, but as the water gets rougher - sometimes no way.

Travelling light is a fine rule for back-packing in the hill country, but for going sailing I feel it is important to have along enough changes of clothing to avoid discomfort of any kind. Self-torture belongs in books of ancient history. Given the range of conditions, here are some things I feel are nice to have along: 9 sailing outfits (3 each for drifters, average, and blow), 6 towels (2nd for the floor), insect repellent, suntan lotion, strap to hold eye-glasses, corks (for lost plug or broken bailer), wide masking tape for bashed boat, sun hat and means to tie under chin, wind hat(s), gloves, file for broken fingernails, red kerchief for protests and end of mast while travelling, plastic waste-basket bags for wet clothes, plastic so car can be moved by driver in wet clothing. And non-perishable munchies for car & boat.

Crews! Insist on your rights! It is not illegal to put a length of tubing over the stay so your hands aren't cut in two by the wire.

Very important: at the Erie Open THIS YEAR there were MANY MORE women who sailed on the boats than ever before!

The Newsletter is listing one name only BECAUSE the records don't show the second member of the teams enough to be consistent. The same applies to new purchasers of used Sidewinders; I can identify only some such members. **WELCOME!** Enclosed are coupons for camping at the Nationals, the Nationals, and for Memberships. This desk can do only a tiny fraction of the recruiting -- the most of it is up to you. No special paper is needed, just the facts of name, address, zip, sail #, and fleet # if there is one, AND THREE DOLLARS.

To Charter a Fleet, you need three Members designated as the three officers. After that you'll want to gain to the size you like, and all along tell us something you do that we can tell the others.

????? Is there any activity in southern Ohio, Indiana or Illinois such that the Nationals might be moved westerly enough to have the Oklahoma & Texas sailors meet with Michigan, New York & Pennsylvania & New England sailors?????? How soon? One or two or three years?

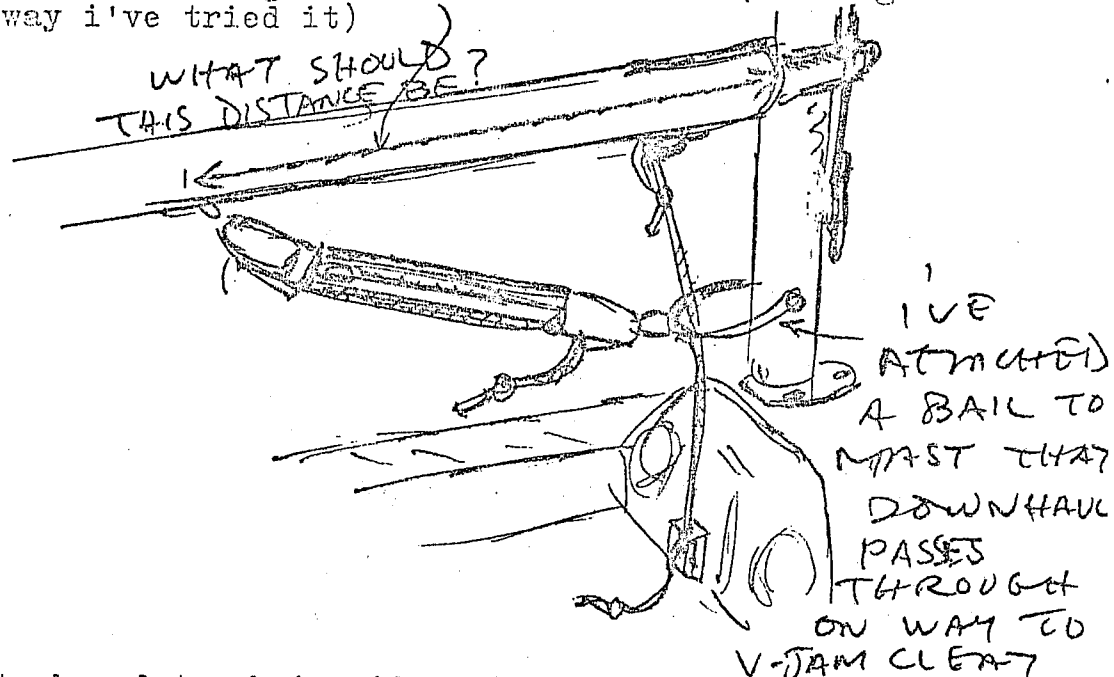
Letter rec'd October 1974. Answered by Walter..." The idea is to hold the boom down and the sail flat without using such a confusing bunch of lines that nobody will crew for you....." The drawings are so good, all should see



dear walter schroth

i'm a new owner of a used sidewinder(#145)...and i've got some questions

boom vang....since the downhaul line is in center what method do you suggest for rigging vang tackle to mast? how far out does vang block attach to boom? (drawing below is the way i've tried it)



the centerboard trunk is wider at the rear slot (old age i guess) so i've had trouble keeping centerboard in the positions required on different points of sail. do you recommend adding a shockcord for counter tension?

