

SIDEWINDER

NEWSLETTER

PUBLICATION OF THE UNITED STATES SIDEWINDER ASSOCIATION

March 1976

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Union City, Pa. 16438

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p. 1

THE SCORE: Fleets - 18 1975 Members - 254 1976 Members - 42
Highest Sail Number - 2000

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HI SAILORS,

THIS IS OUR ANNUAL PITCH TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN THE ASSOCIATION OR TO REJOIN US IF YOU HAVE STRAYED FROM OUR HAPPY THROG FOR A YEAR OR SO. THIS ONE ISSUE ONLY OF THE NEWSLETTER IS BEING MAILED TO ALL CURRENT MEMBERS PLUS ALL FORMER MEMBERS FOR WHOM WE HAVE ADDRESSES.

1975 WAS A GOOD YEAR FOR SIDEWINDER. WE HAD MORE BOATS SAILING IN MORE PLACES -- MORE FLEETS -- AND MORE REGATTAS THAN EVER. THE OLD TOYOTA PULLED OUR TWO FAMILY BOATS NEARLY 5000 MILES TO SAIL WITH THE GREATEST PEOPLE IN THE WORLD - OTHER SIDEWINDER SAILORS!

THIS LETTER TELLS OF FLEET SCHEDULES AND REGATTAS WE KNOW ABOUT SO FAR THIS SEASON -- MORE TO COME. YOU CERTAINLY DON'T WANT TO MISS OUT. --SO-- TURN TO THE LAST PAGE -- FILL OUT YOUR COUPON AND MAIL IT RIGHT NOW!

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THIS ISSUE ALSO INCLUDED A BALLOT COUPON FOR VOTING ON THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO LIMIT THE POSITION OF THE SPINNAKER LAUNCHER. MANY OF YOU HAVE SENT COMMENTS AND OPINIONS ON THIS SUBJECT: SOME OF YOU ASKING THAT THEY BE PUBLISHED. WE DECIDED NOT TO PUBLISH ANY MORE PROS AND CONS PARTLY BECAUSE THE DISCUSSION SEEMS ENDLESS BUT, MOSTLY, BECAUSE WE HAVE RUN OUT OF TIME. YOU WILL FIND THE BALLOT ON THE LAST PAGE WITH THE DUES COUPON.

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NEXT NEWSLETTERS

Material due dates: May 7, July 9, September 10

Publishing dates: May 28, July 30, October 1

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From John W. Harvey, Pitman, N.J..... Peace Valley Sailing Association has several Sidewinders racing regularly and will soon become a fleet. Peace Valley Lake is small, one by three miles, located near Doylestown in eastern Pennsylvania. John's street is 243 Pitman Avenue, zip code 08071.

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FLEET # 18 WELCOME Zimri Smith of Omaha is Fleet Captain, 436 N. 61st St., Omaha, Nebraska 68132. Eastern Nebraska Sailing Association.

Everything in this Association is VOLUNTEER; we do it for FUN. There are many vacant jobs, particularly, each state needs a chairman. There is no set formula - just do what you think will make the club go. Some of you are alone in your states -- why not participate?

MICHIGAN - Ken Walker, 36733 Rowe, Sterling Hgts., Mich. 48077

OHIO - Garnett J. Lee, 1420 Glendale Ave., Dayton, Ohio 45406

OKLAHOMA - Ben Sanders Jr., Rt. 1, Box 105, Pawhuska, Okla. 74056

NEW YORK - Earl Selover, 410 Beech St., Rome, N.Y. 13440

NEW ENGLAND - Lin Perry, 420 Shore Rd., Monument Beach, Mass. 02553

"Last year a few of us raced with the ENSA in the open class, and provided the comedy relief for the serious racers as we practiced righting our boats, finding buoys, turning turtle and losing centerboards, putting sails on upside down, losing our crews overboard during the race, crossing the finish line on the wrong side of the committee boat (if we finished at all), and all the other things new parents do with their first baby! By the end of the summer, some of us were not only beginning the races at the starting line, finishing the course along the prescribed course, and docking on the right side of the lake (we cheated and followed the others), but we actually avoided being a far last.

We usually sail at Branched Oak Reservoir, about 15 miles west of Lincoln, Ne. The lake is large and all boaters pretty well respect the rights of others. The fishermen stay on one end, the water skiers along one finger of the lake, and we are left pretty much alone along another bay of the lake. This arrangement works by mutual respect, interests, and common usage. We are not without problems, though, as last summer two incidents resulted from power boat "hot rodders" broadsiding a sailboat. Although both sailboats were lost, we were fortunate that only one injury resulted, and the ENSA had the foresight and facilities to safely handle these incidents.

We look forward to being a National Fleet, and to a happy relationship with all of you."

/s/ Libby & Zimri Smith

From the Keystone Aquatic Club -- We are cordially invited to the second annual Susquehanna Down-River-Regatta at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania on Saturday May 8th. This is the now widely known "Clothesline" Regatta -- a wild single event race on the river, which was richly enjoyed by the fifty entrants in 1975. Of course, some of last year's fun will be spoiled by moving the race into deep water to avoid the boat-crunching rocks and rapids of last year. Awww!

For more information contact Gary Phlugfelder or John Twigg at Harrisburg Seaplane Base, Wormleysburg, Pennsylvania 17043. Phone is 717-232-6759.

Ernie Rille writes from Roanoke, Virginia (4610 Northridge ST N.E., zip 24012) "With moving in December and having a new baby soon, I forgot to write to say I'm also an American Red Cross Sailing Instructor. For your information, I'm teaching a Basic Sailing course at the Roanoke Valley Chapter of the ARC starting Feb. 18, 7:30 to 9:30 PM for 5 weeks. This will be Part I course (theoretical aspects only). Part II will be conducted later this spring or summer (depending on interest) at Smith Mountain Lake. So far, we have only a few Sidewinders in Virginia. We hope to improve."

From Dr. Harry M. Wernert of Cadillac... Why not run a list of used Sidewinders in the newsletter? Reply: We try. Maybe nobody is selling./ps

1976 NORTH JERSEY

SPRING REGATTA

MAY 22 -23, 1976

p. 3

HOSTS: Fleet #17 of Lake Shawnee

PLACE: Swartswood Lake

CONTACT: Nils Demar- 201-663-1297
43 E. Shawnee Trail
Lake Shawnee
Wharton, N.J. 07885

OR

Beverly Fraser- 201-663-1688
61 E. Shawnee Trail
Lake Shawnee
Wharton, N.J. 07885

REGISTRATION: The entry fee for the Spring Regatta is \$5.00 per Boat. You will also be required to pay a launch fee. Make check payable to: ANNE BEVERLY FRASER.

CAMPING: is available at Swartswood State Park, you must call early for reservations. 201-383-5230 No Reservations, No Camping.

MOTELS: Swartswood Lodge - 201-383-9798 (9 rooms only)
Stillwater Inn - 201-383-6055
Waldmere Hotel - 201-383-1130
Viebrocks Motel - 201-383-3922
Straits Holiday Motel - 201-786-5260

ACTIVITIES: two races Saturday and three races Sunday. Lunches will have to be bought at Swartswood Lodge. Buffet Dinner, Saturday night at Swartswood Lodge at \$5.25 each, children 12 and under \$2.50. Money for Buffet Dinner must be sent with entry fee. Signin time until 11:00 A.M., May 22 at Hendershot Point. Skippers meeting 12:30, May 22 at Swartswood Lodge.

DESCRIPTION: Swartswood is a small picturesque lake. The park is well equipped for camping. Campers may launch at camp grounds. Others must launch at Hendershot Point. Map included.

AWARDS: will be given to top three skippers and crews.

ABSOLUTE DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION, ENTRY FEE and MONEY FOR BUFFET is April 22. Please send Check to: ANNE BEVERLY FRASER.

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From the Schroths...We promise you our usual great sailing at the Erie Yacht Club's annual Open Regatta on June 5 & 6. There is always a good turnout of Sidewinders in this multi-class regatta. Classes invited are those with representation at the club.

The building is large and the facilities excellent. The interior of the clubhouse has been remodeled and now includes a fireplace.

Sailing is on the bay in races run by an excellent Race Committee. With permission, camping is on the Yacht Club grounds. Many motels are nearby, good food at EYC. Children should be watched; probably a fishing derby with the children's own equipment. Food is nearby, ranging from McDonald's to horribly expensive restaurants. Pre-register. If you need more information, write us -- or call Pat, Walter, Sally or Fred at (814) 438-2410.

From Peter Ballantine, Vice-Commodore BYC... Hallway between Akron and Youngstown, Ohio is the Berlin Reservoir, home of the Berlin Yacht Club. We think we have one of the best small sailboat facilities anywhere.

On June 12 & 13 we will be holding our annual Berlin Open. We expect our usual good turnout of several classes. Sidewinder has participated before.

We plan to race at 10:00 and 2:00 on Saturday and again at 10:00 on Sunday. Camping is on club grounds. Meals are served at modest cost by club members. Saturday night, as usual, will be party night.

Trophies are given to 1st place in a fleet of three, 1st and 2nd in a fleet of 5, and 1st-2nd-3rd with a fleet of seven or more preregistered all.

Contact Peter Ballentine at 14255 Route 534, Salem, Ohio 44460. Also write "BYC Regatta" on envelope. Or telephone him at (216) 537-2841. p.4

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From Bill Millar of Harrisburg, Pa....The Pinchot Sailing Club is sponsoring a one day regatta on Saturday, June 19, 1976. Our club will be assisted by the Lake Marburg Sailing Association. The races, hopefully five of them weather permitting, will be held at Lake Marburg in Codorus State Park near Hanover in York County. There will be two sets of races, one for Sidewinders and the other for Sunfish.

For those not familiar with Codorus State Park, it is located in an area with low rolling farmland. Last summer we had excellent luck with the winds. The park's facilities for sailors and landlubbers are excellent with good camping, launching and picnicing facilities available.

Persons interested in attending or wanting more information should contact me at 241 Briggs St., Harrisburg, Pa. 17102; or call (717) 236-7593.

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From Joe Devine and Dody of Cross Lake NY Fleet #13...We have chosen Saturday, June 19 as the day for our Invitational Regatta. Skippers' meeting will be at 12:00 noon, and the regatta will consist of three races with trophies for 1st, 2nd and 3rd.

We'd also like to experiment with something new - team racing...pick-up teams of three boats and will purchase 3 trophies for the winning three-boat team. Team points will be awarded for individual sailing in the regatta along with a relay race after the regatta on Saturday and three team races over a short course early Sunday. Write ahead about team racing!

Steve & Jackie Keenan have been kind enough to allow TENT camping at the Marina Friday and Saturday nights. If anyone has a camper-trailer or wants info on a motel, drop Joe a line: Joe & Dody Devine, 647 Idlewood Ct., Baldwinsville, NY 13027.

"WARNING! We're going to do all that's possible to keep some of the trophies here at Cross Lake!"

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Lin Perry, Monument Beach, Mass.: "We're going to be racing from a different location which will make it better for getting off the beach. The race will be held July 10 & 11. Two races Saturday, one Sunday. There'll be 4 classes of boats racing: Sidewinder, Bandit 15, Pintail & Wenaumet Kitten (a local class of Cape Cod Cats). There are camp grounds in the area, motels and plenty of restaurants. Trophies will be awarded to 1st & 2nd in all classes. We'll have a cookout Saturday after the races at the Perry's house. Entry fee will be \$5.00 and this includes the cookout. We hope this year we don't have so much wind like last year.

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Cadillac Mitchell Yacht Club had it's first meeting of 1976 last Wednesday. I really think it was the last meeting of 1975, but last fall the club was so flooded and the weather so bad, that we got our boats out of there as quickly as possible and snuggled up in front of the fire to await the ski season. No real schedules for 1976 as yet, since that will all be done sometime in May.

But all sailors are welcome to sail with us anytime or to drop by to see what is going on whenever they are in the area. Hopefully, we will be sailing every Sunday.

We hate to see Fleet #7 perfecting their techniques so early, since up here we really can't get started much before the end of May. It really is too cold! Last year we were still skiing on April 13, and Sidewinders are too small a boat to compete with the ice floes on the lake! We will just practice harder and more frequently and drink more beer, so as to be in shape for some good competition!

The 1976 Sidewinder National Championship Regatta will be at Cadillac, Michigan on July 24 & 25. Entry fee will be the same as last year - \$15.00; make payable and send to: Robert Cole, Sec'y Fleet #15, P.O. Box 329, Cadillac, Michigan, 49601. There will be three races Saturday - two on Sunday. The \$15.00 will include two lunches for skipper and crew; awards will be given to the top eight! More - much more - to follow in May newsletter, but please register by July 1, 1976. P.5

Pat: I have a fascinating questionnaire which was planned for use at a Fleet #7 Sidewinder sailing clinic. Question 17: "Are there any special secrets for knowing when you have correct sail trim?" A. An old friend in Snipes said that's the same the world around and on all courses, just in from luffing. Question 24: "How much play do you keep in your shrouds?" A. Snug but not piano wire. (The jib outfit could fall off if too loose). Q 26: "How is your jib luff set on the furler, stretched tight or slack?" A. Pretty.

We have had a rather steady flow of letters ever since the first spinnaker came out for Sidewinders asking, "How do you launch the crazy thing?" By the time we could write our answer down we had already discovered an easier way of launching, and we are still convinced that no Sidewinder we have seen uses the the ultimate method (equipment or personnel). The following is one functional method for launching a stock Sidewinder spinnaker. Most sailors who have used spinnakers will suggest different or better ways. If you intend to race seriously, you will have to:

1. improve upon this technique
2. change some or all of the rigging.
3. learn to do both launching and dropping without losing control or speed

OUR PROCEDURE IS:

1. head boat away from wind and roll up jib
2. pull spinnaker out of porthole
3. fasten halyard to head of spinnaker around outside of jib sheets
4. hoist spinnaker and cleat halyard
5. grasp spinnaker pole
6. grasp winward corner of spinnaker
7. snap one end of pole onto plastic ring on spinnaker
8. slide topping lift into fitting on middle of pole so that when you...
9. attach the pole to the fitting on the mast it is horizontal
10. pull in on the sheets until the spinnaker is full and drawing

DROPPING:

1. remove spinnaker pole and throw it at the skipper
2. grab the starboard spinnaker sheet
3. use the sheet to pull the spinnaker to you
4. make a wad of the bottom of the spinnaker
5. unfasten the halyard from the cleat on the mast
6. carefully stuff the spinnaker into the starboard porthole with the head pointing to 2 o'clock, the port ear pointing to 12 o'clock and the starboard ear at 3 o'clock. From those ears the lines flow 1) around the bow and back to the port snatch block, 2) up to the fairlead on the mast, 3) around the front of the starboard stay and back to the starboard fairlead.

7. unfasten halyard from head of spinnaker and fasten for storage
8. roll out the jib and head up-wind.

By,
Fred Schroth

From Lake Glendale, home of 1975 Nationals.... (fearless Fleet #7)

The Lake Glendale racing schedule has not been set up yet and we doubt it will be done by March 5, but we'll send it as soon as possible. We've talked with the Lake Glendale Commodore (our father) about a Sidewinder invitational this year, unfortunately it is out of reach for the club as a separate activity. We would like to invite all Sidewinders to a regular race some Sunday when we have two races. We averaged 10 boats per race last year and have our own start. Fleet #7 will be weighing our Sidewinders in May. If you live in the area and are interested in getting your boat weighed contact Carol Park, 537 Kemmerer Road, State College, Pa. 16801...Phone (814) 238-2666.

/s/ Carol & Mary Park

Fleet #5, Detroit...Scheduling for the 1976 sailing with the Metro-Detroit Sailing Association was complete in February. The Fleet is going to remain with the Tri-County Sailing Association which will provide us with course marks and race committees. The Fleet's only obligation is to race committee twice during the season. The Fleet will have 5 Sundays at Kent Lake and 5 race days at Stoney Creek Lake. **If you received a schedule last year you will receive a schedule this year. If you are not on our mailing list, contact Ken Walker at (313) 675-0751.

Anyone living in the DOWN RIVER AREA OF DETROIT interested in racing but cannot attend races at Kent or Stoney, are asked to contact me concerning the possibility of starting another fleet on Lake Erie. A gentleman has offered a permanent area for docking and racing on Lake Erie near Gibraltar. Sidewinder should be increasing in ownership in the Down River area as more boat stores are selling them. There is no current in this area; it is a secluded bay area with lots of wind space. It looks pretty good.

Attention JACKSON-BATTLE CREEK area. Ken Walker has information about a regatta on Grass Lake. This would be a good opportunity to start something going in South West Michigan. Call or write Ken Walker.

From the Pintail Assn. President..."Thanks for the invitation to the Cape Cod Regatta. There are a lot of Pintails in the East Coast Area that I hope will attend. I'm putting the information in the Pintail Newsletter - also in March - to all owners of record.

This regatta conflicts with a Pintail invitational at Port Clinton, Ohio on the same weekend. This may result in the loss of some Midwestern boats to your regatta. I would hope, though, that the Penn fleet would attend at Cape Cod. (They don't like to travel west it seems).

My own plans are not yet firm. I want to sail in both!!

Thanks again for the invite, and I hope the Pintails will help make your regatta a success.

/s/ Bob Voelker
1329 Wayne Dr.
Des Plaines, Ill. 60018

Hear ye hear ye ALL HANDS ATTENTION.....Needlework exhibits with awards...at all regattas Pat gets to in 1976. Include snake and sailboat in design. All entries to be made of cloth or thread or yarn. Save batik to go with painting and such another season. Open to members and associate members. Thus, send dues for all needleworkers. Pre-register, please.

How to pre-register: post card to secretary.

*****PROPOSED AMENDMENT*****

Per September Newsletter: page 5, Minutes of the annual meeting item 11. "After extended discussion, motion was passed 22-9 to submit to full national membership balloting an 'addition to the prohibitions' worded to match the By-Laws with this intent: 'Nothing attached may extend beyond the profile overhead view, that is, outboard of the rub rails (excluding whisker pole and rudder)'".

Article 9 Amendments -

Amendments to the Constitution and to the bylaws covering measurements may be made by the following procedure: An amendment must be moved, seconded and passed by a majority vote at the annual meeting. The proposed amendment shall then be submitted to the membership by mail. Enactment requires a two-thirds majority of all ballots filed.

11.. Prohibitions: Prohibited from use on sanctioned SIDEWINDER events are:

10. Any spinnaker launching device which extends outboard of the sheer line.

Your vote YES is to add item 10 to the constitution.

Your vote NO is to let the constitution alone, at this time.

BALLOT COUPON ** BALLOT COUPON ** BALLOT COUPON ** BALLOT COUPON **

Mail to Pat Schroth, 41 West High St., Union City, Pa. 16438

NAME _____ SAIL # _____

☐ YES I want to have the constitution amended by adding item 10 above.

☐ NO I do not want to amend the constitution at this time.

Sailors eligible to vote are 1975 and 1976 members as of March 1, 1976.

Mail to: Pat Schroth, Sec'y., 41 West High St., Union City, Pa. 16438
ENCLOSED is my \$3.00 for 1976 Membership in the United States Sidewinder Association.

NAME _____ FLEET # _____ SAIL # _____

STREET & # _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

SAILING ON LAKE _____

IF USED, PREVIOUS OWNER, PLEASE _____

OOPS!!!! District Secretaries on page 2 is not complete! The following two names were omitted by mistake:

WISCONSIN - Larry & Cheryl Booth, 470 Willow Court, Fox Point, Wis. 53217

MINNESOTA - Clark & Pam Gantzer, 3455 Elliot Ave So., Minneapolis, Minn. 55407