



The Windsong

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WESTERN CAROLINA SAILING CLUB

HARTWELL LAKE, ANDERSON, SC

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FROM THE COMMODORE

Our club is steeped in rich history and tradition, that has come to the forefront now more than before. On Commissioning Day we honored those that were the leadership of this club and we gave special honor to those that have passed on-people like Billy Lacher, Mike Miros, Bill Sloger and Ed Sherman to name a few. In the last month or so I have heard a lot of cool stories about these people from those who have been around the club for a long time. You need to get to know people like Jim Hudson, AG Caldwell, Terhune Sudderth, Ronnie Ashmore, Jim Snowden, John Kriedler, Joe Martin, Keat Pruszenski, to name a few (and there are many more). They are the keepers of the history and traditions of the club and you should get to know these people. You will find them at the events around the club like fleet races, distance races, parties at the club, and work days. You need to ask Joe Martin who Billy Lacher was or ask Ronnie Ashmore who Ed Sherman was and be prepared to hear wonderful stories about the people that made Western Carolina Sailing Club what it is today.

Guided by our past we move forward this year to create a better club for its members. We have just gotten a report from the Dock/Breakwater Expansion Committee and we are putting together the pieces for a Q&A presentation meeting for the membership that will be held sometime in April or May. As soon as we get all of the ducks in a row we will announce the meeting.

Other things we are working on are for Sailing Education and Equipment Maintenance. The big items we are concerned with and working toward is the storage and protection of our club boats and the maintenance of them. If you have ability to do woodwork or can fiberglass or even metal work please reach out to Gary Stansell and sign up to help out with the Club Sailboat Maintenance Committee. All are welcome and no help will be turned down.

There are a lot of projects that are starting up around the club. Ray Guidi is looking for people to help out on several projects, such as frost proof hydrant install, planting of trees, planting of ground cover, underbrushing, and many more projects. Please reach to him or our Rear Commodore Dacia Schrecengost and they will appreciate the help.

If you have questions or comments about what we are doing or where we are going as a club, please reach out to me or one of the Board of Steward members. I look forward to serving you this year and I am excited to see where we can take it this year.

See you at the club and see you on the water,

Eric Seymour
Commodore

FROM THE VICE COMMODORE

Ahoy, Sailors!

The March 2nd Commissioning day this year was spectacular! Eric Seymour, our new Commodore, invited the Wren High School ROTC color guard to post the American Flag and they did so flawlessly. This event kicked off our 2024 sailing year.

Our Frostbite racing series wrapped up in February and the Centerboard fleet kicked off their races on March 9th. April is full of activities you won't want to miss. In addition to the Keelboat and Centerboard fleet race series we'll have the Dam distance race on April 13th. Invite your neighbors, friends or co-workers for a day of leisurely sailing that's a casual race. It just so happens that the B Dock Party is on the same day and everyone is invited.

Adult Learn to Sail classes will be held starting on April 26th and finishing up April 28th. That will get us through April and on May 4th we'll have the Derby Dames Race for the Roses. This is a WOW sponsored event. Friday night Dinghy Races will start on Friday, May 24th.

June will begin with our Around Andersonville Island. This too is leisurely sailing that's a casual race. D Dock has their party on June the 8th. The following Saturday WOW has their summer social.

Our club is busy with events on and off the water. The camaraderie is what it's all about.

We are a sailing club that promotes sailing.

Tony Bolan

FROM THE REAR COMMODORE

We've had a great 1st Quarter. March 2nd was the first Work Day. We had 30 Members out clearing underbrush, splitting logs, doing water hose checks, cleaning up the grounds, and cleaning the clubhouse. Thank you everyone for helping.

The next Work Day is April 27th. If you would like to help with the many things needed around the club ground but cannot attend a workday, let me know.

There are also other ways to help. We need some help on the House Committee:

- First Aid Cabinets stocked & maintained throughout the year
- Kitchen Appliance Maintenance & Cleaning
- General Maintenance ie filters, bulbs, etc

Happy Spring,

Dacia Schrecengost

CENTERBOARD FLEET

The 2024 Centerboard Fleet season kicked off on March 9 with 3 races. Weather forecast showed a cold front over the mountains with a warm front moving up the eastern seaboard. This resulted in light winds backing from the NE and eventually filling in out of the West. This produced on-and-off rain, light winds, and fog by the last race of the day. Thank you to PRO Chuck Ballew and his race management crew for chasing the wind and getting in three races on a challenging day. Seven boats sailed out to the racecourse to showcase the variety of the fleet – three Flying Scots, two Weta trimarans; a Laser and a Force 5 - could be the makings of a good holiday song! The day progressed with Rick Fontenot winning all three races; Dan Neff getting two seconds and a third; and junior sailor Andrew Neff getting a second and two thirds. Deborah Burnett won the race to be first to pay fleet dues, and she gets a special shout out for melt-in-your-mouth brownies! The day ended with burgers, beer, and a nice warm fire up at the club.



Our season will continue with races planned on 6 April, 21 April, 12 May, 24 Aug, 14 Sep, 28 Sep, 20 Oct, 2 Nov, and possibly 9 Nov (make up day). We look forward to seeing all the familiar faces from the past, but we are always looking to draw in new participants. Even if you have never tried Centerboard Racing before, come join us on any of our race days. We have cookout socials planned for immediately after racing each time - some people say it's the best part of being a WCSC member! There's always someone looking for crew, and we are eager to put as many boats as possible on the line for each race.



Photos courtesy of Tyler Knight



As a reminder you DO NOT need a centerboard boat to participate. WCSC has three Flying Scots, a Buccaneer, a Lightning, Lasers, and Sunfish, so sign up for them on the club website. In addition to club boats, there are several centerboard members that have two or more boats that perhaps can be borrowed. If you need crew, please reach out by phone or email and we will help with finding you crew. Even if you can't plan ahead, show up and we will see that you get on a boat as crew.

Juniors, of all ages, are always welcome to attend the 10:30 skippers meeting, and we will get them out on the water for a day of fun - please bring a lifejacket. Parents can call or email me if you have a junior sailor that would like to get more time on the water. The 2024 Centerboard Fleet NOR and sailing instructions are available on WCSC website on the Event Pages for each of our race days in the club calendar. The plan is for 30 races over the whole season, so I am looking for everyone qualifying by sailing in at least 15 or 50% of the races held. If mother nature gives us fair winds throughout the year, then Skippers only have to plan on a minimum of 5 days throughout the year to qualify.

Smooth Sailing!

Daniel & Christine Neff
Centerboard Fleet Captain
Flying Scot 2929
danneff@verizon.net



KEELBOAT FLEET

By Chuck Ballew



Your keelboat Fleet started their season this year March 3, 2024. We had six boats on the line for the start of the season. Brent Benson, our PRO, did a tremendous job getting three races for the day.

The standings after three races are:

Joe Martin racing his Capri 25
George Masson aboard his J105
Chuck Ballew sailing an Ultimate 20
Andy Fessenmeyer in a Kiwi 22
Matthew Blomberg racing a Santana 20
Greg Torrisi aboard his Viper

Racing in the keelboat fleet is open to all members of Western Carolina Sailing Club. We sail windward leeward courses. We try to have three starts on race day. 3 1/2 hours is about average time spent on the water with plenty of time afterwards to debrief and toast the day's activities.

Please join us in the spring!!



I have spent most of my weekends during the sailing season since the 80's on Lake Hartwell in both fleets at Western Carolina. This is such a wonderful place to be a part of. The health of any organization is only as strong as the members that participate. We are blessed to have Flag officers, Stewards, Committee Chairs and volunteers that love to make WCSC a paradise for all to enjoy.

One area that I have seen lacking is people not showing up for their Race Committee Assignments. I have been doing this a long time. The lackadaisical attitude I'm seeing in some among our membership should be raising red flags to us. Listen, when you join the club, we ask that you serve a dozen hours of fair share to the benefit of WCSC, and serve once a year on Race Committee. This is a requirement. It is not voluntary. We have a race program, and PROs take pride in being able to run the day's assignments efficiently and effectively.

Please, Please show up for your assignments, or line up a sub to fill your slot.



MARDI GRAS PARTY

By Maria Bolan

On Saturday, February 10th, WOW hosted our annual Mardi Gras party. The Frostbite racers joined us after the race for a perfect blend of sailing and celebration. With a menu boasting iconic New Orleans dishes like muffaletta, king cake, macaroni and cheese, and shrimp gumbo, the event was a culinary journey into the heart of Louisiana.

With a crowd of approximately 40 enthusiastic participants, the Mardi Gras party at the Sail Club was a testament to the strong sense of community within the sailing community. Laughter and joy filled the air as sailors, club members, and guests came together to revel in the festive atmosphere.

A big thank you to Christine Neff, Jeanne Guidi and the rest of the WOW crew for making this another successful taste of New Orleans!



FAMILY FUN DAY

By Christine Neff

The Sailing Education Committee is planning something special for Sunday, April 7th! It's called Family Fun Day and it will be a day filled with activities to liven up a family day at WCSC! Please bring lunch, water, and life jackets. This event will be RAIN OR SHINE as we have some on land activities planned.



- We will have some “ride-along” Optis for the youngest sailors
- A relay race activity in Bics/Sunfish for the intermediate sailors
- There will also be an island scavenger hunt for the family members to sail in their own boats or sailing side by side in club boats.

This is not a drop off activity – plan to stay and sail with your children or help out on land! We plan to start at 10 AM and go until 5 PM - you may participate at any time during the day!

Please register in advance, through the WCSC calendar, so we can plan for the correct number.

By John Kreidler, Jim Snowden, Thilo Koch, Tom Dames



Bruce and Gayle Dwyer

We are Bruce and Gayle Dwyer. We have been in the upstate of SC since 2015 when we moved to the southeast from the mid-west to be relieved from the harsh winter weather of the north without the blazing summer temperatures of southern Florida... a perfect balance!

We originally met and became a couple in 2000 in Indianapolis, IN where Gayle, who was born in Chicago, spent most of her growing-up years. I was born and raised in Toronto, Canada and traveled to the US, usually Indianapolis, related to my job as an accountant in medium and small companies in the financial services industry.

After moving to the upstate, both of us continued to work for a few years, Gayle as an administrator, and I, wanting a change, did driving duties for a senior community in Easley. Now we are both fully retired and have been attending art school for the last 5 years and Gayle will graduate this spring with a Fine Art Certificate from Greenville Tech. We have recently converted our garage into an art studio where we currently spend much of our time painting and producing ceramics.

Regarding sailing, I have always been interested in any activity related to the water including swimming and scuba diving as well as sailing. I bought my first sailboat (a car topper with a main and jib sail plan) in my mid-twenties and have since then, owned a few different swing and fixed keel boats, mostly in partnership with a couple of friends to share the joys of sailing along with the costs and responsibilities of boat ownership. In the end, this was an excellent arrangement overall and most of our sailing adventures were undertaken on the waters of Lake Ontario in Canada. Since moving to the US about 25 years ago, I have not had the opportunity to actively sail much but am looking forward to getting back out on the water. Gayle has yet to be introduced to the joys of sailing but is looking forward to getting out on the water too and learning all about it.

Peter and Galina Haver

Peter started sailing as a child, initially in the San Francisco Bay area. Until attending college, he raced and cruised out of local clubs for some twelve years on a variety of dinghies and keel boats. He owned a Flying Dutchman Junior during that period. He sailed on the University of California's (at Santa Cruz) sailing team on various dinghies and keel boats.

During his residence in Europe for some thirty years, he sailed extensively in Brittany, France and the Mediterranean, mostly on cruising boats. He taught sailing for some five years while on vacations at a French sailing school and, there during, obtained a teaching certificate from the French government. While in Europe, Peter owned (with Galina) a Tony Castor design (Spring 25) racing boat, which Peter and Galina cruised extensively in Brittany, France.

Upon moving back to the States in 2003, Peter and Galina purchased an Orion 27 (from Pacific Seacraft), which they cruised on Florida's east coast (and in the Bahamas) for some fifteen years. After selling their home in West Palm Beach, Florida, in 2021, they moved that boat to the Gulf coast last summer, where they rent a house in close proximity. After doing some camping in South Carolina, they have decided to buy a home in Oconee County, South Carolina. A former long-time member of your club (Ms. Beth Wilson) told Galina and Peter about your facilities and Lake Hartwell, although Ms. Wilson now sails on Lake Keowee in a smaller boat.

Although born in Siberia, Russia (where they do not sail much), Galina began sailing with Peter in France in 1992. She has cruised extensively in Brittany, France and the Mediterranean and, more recently, on Florida's east coast. She studied French literature in Russia, where she obtained an advanced diploma. She moved to France in 2000, with the intention of relocating to the United States. But she ended up marrying Peter and moving with him to Duesseldorf, Germany, where they lived for 11 years, before they took up residence in southern Florida.

Peter sailed out of the San Francisco Yacht Club until going off to college in 1973. Peter and Galina kept their Orion 27 on a mooring as members at the Coconut-Grove Sailing Club from 2003 to 2007. They had membership in the Upper Keys Sailing Club in Key Largo, Florida from 2008 to 2010. Thereafter, Peter and Galina docked their sailboat in various clubs and marinas in the Stuart and Fort Pierce area in central Florida. Their sailboat now lies in a small shrimp-fishing harbor (Carrabelle) on Florida's Gulf coast. They plan to move her to your club facilities.

Bill Cheadle

I was born in Philadelphia, PA and lived in that general area until my early 30's when I took off for Florida aboard my Windrose 26 sailboat. I purchased her almost new (she was the dealer's demo boat), jettisoned the outboard bracket and tiller and installed a Yanmar 1GM and wheel steering for the trip south. In all, she consumed less than 100 gallons of diesel fuel over the two month trip (I was in no hurry).



Over the years I've owned six sailboats, starting with a canvas sailing kayak I built in my early youth, then later a Penguin 14' sailing dinghy, a Com-Pac 16, American 24, the Windrose, a Morgan 321, Dufour 36 Classic and a Pearson Ensign. I was recently looking for another "last" sailboat, and put a deposit on a Herreshoff America catboat. I expect to take possession in early October.

I have been a member of a couple yacht clubs while living in Florida, most recently the Clearwater Yacht Club where I volunteered regularly for race committee, and served as Yachting Chair and on the board just before moving north. I also sailed my Dufour in a couple of the PHRF races and have won several second place trophies – not bad for a cruiser coming late to racing!

A flatlander all my life, after two years in Washington, NC, we moved inland to Bristol, VA. I sold my Dufour and bought the Ensign knowing I'd be a lake sailor from that point on. I sailed the Ensign on South Holston Lake, then later on Smith Mountain Lake, and I'm now hooked on lakes! You can actually enjoy some scenery (other than condos and hotels) while sailing. Melissa and I just purchased a home in Anderson, moving down from Hardy, VA., and it just happens to be near beautiful Lake Hartwell. The sailing bug has bit again, and I look forward to settling in Anderson and spending many hours sailing on the lake. Even better is joining your sailing community and getting involved in racing and race committee activities.



Jeremy Rutenberg

My name is Jeremy Rutenberg, and I'm a recent mechanical engineering graduate of the University of Florida. I relocated to Greenville to work in the auto industry. While in school, I picked up sailing as a hobby and it's one of my favorite pastimes.

I am excited to pursue this wonderful activity while becoming a more skilled sailor through WCSC, and I'm very excited to be here!

McClain Family

We are an adventurous family living in Greenville, who loves travel and the living close to nature. My wife, Mercedes, and I were raised by the water in South Florida and on the Caribbean island of St. Kitts, respectivley. And though we've built our life in The Upstate, we still share a love, respect and admiration for the sailing lifestyle. Thus, we leapt at the opportunity to acquire a boat so we could learn to sail.

When I was a child living in the Caribbean, I worked as a deckhand on a friend's catamaran. My role mainly consisted of diving for conch shells to sell to the tourists on board. If you ask me, not a bad way for a ten year old kid to make some ice cream money. I was always amazed by the power of the wind. As an adult, my mind often drifts back to those early days on the open water.



Mercedes grew up in Ft Lauderdale, FL and has always loved the water. Many of her treasured childhood memories are of family fishing and diving trips in the Bahamas and Florida Keys. Mooring in various bays and meeting people from all over the world who had adopted the sailing lifestyle set up a place in her young imagination that now, in adulthood, she still aspires to.

Today I am a Career Craftsman and own my own business (treehuggercustoms.com). I specialize in designing and building luxury treehouses, custom furniture, and vintage travel trailer restorations. I've made a career of bringing my customer's childhood fantasies to life. Mercedes owns a Yoga Therapy practice. Her life's work is helping people find peace, strength, vitality, and balance in an increasingly stressful world. She is passionate about wellness.

We have two children, Isabella (18), a Freshman at USC, and Jack (16), a Junior at GHS. Our children are enthusiastic adventurers who are always down to try new things and acquire new skills. The Ranger 29 sailboat will be a place where we can spend quality time as a family and learn new things together. And as Mercedes and I look toward our future as empty-nesters, we see sailing becoming a fun new way to grow, build community, and enhance our relationship.

We are excited to join this community and look forward to more time on the water in the future.



Roger Allison and Angela Hebert

Hi, I'm Roger Allison and I have been a sailor since crewing on a Spring Break sailing trip to Bimini, Bahamas and the Northern Keys. Professionally, I was an executive for 9 healthcare IT companies, and I am currently a Realtor in the Upstate. But, I always spent weekends on the water. MOF, I named my first Annapolis-based sailboat "Sales Call" so I wouldn't be lying when asked where I was! My last boat, Dances With Waves, was a Pearson 40 centerboard Ted Hood-designed sloop of which I raced on Wednesday nights and cruised the East Coast (e.g., Chesapeake, Narragansett, Martha Vineyard, Nantucket and Buzzards Bay).

I moved to Greenville SC from Raleigh in 2019 to help a cousin start a business. This is when Angela and I met and bonded over our love for the water after she shared her experience completing a weeklong "Basic Keel Boating" course in Charleston. Angela is a native of Clemson and spent many summers on Lake Hartwell.

My ocean cruising experience is as a charter Captain in the Caribbean (e.g., St Maarten, Antigua, St Barts, Nevis/St Kitts, British Virgin Islands, USVI, Out Island Bahamas, Florida Keys). My racing experience is as crew in multiple Mt Gay-sponsored Regattas at New York, Capital (DC), Bermuda, Antigua, Annapolis and Newport Yacht Clubs. Finally, I have most certifications from ASA and the USCG Auxiliary. However, I am most proud of my fundraising for the National Maritime Heritage Foundation and teaching 500 underprivileged children the self-confidence, engineering and the lifetime benefits of sailing when co-founding the 121st Mt Gay Cantina Cup Regatta sponsored by DCSail on the Washington Channel in DC.

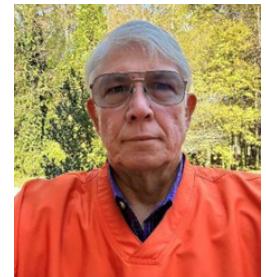
Angela and I continue our lifelong sailing passion and look forward to sharing its many benefits with our new WCSC sailing community!

Preston and Rosemary Weeks

I'm Preston Weeks and my wife is Rosemary. Rose grew up in Augusta, GA and I grew up in Aiken, SC. We have one son, who is grown and lives in North Carolina with his family.

I graduated from Clemson and I worked a full career for a large chemical company. Rosemary graduated from the Medical College of Georgia and worked in a number of hospitals and medical organizations. Being in a capital projects department for a full career, we were transferred a number of times across the US. We currently live in Seneca, SC and enjoy our time living on Lake Harwell and traveling when we can.

I grew up camping and boating on Lake Thurman...we called it Clark's Hill at the time, and that's where learned to sail. So, living and boating on Lake Harwell in the Clemson area, is a bit of coming back home. While my interest is more cruising, day sailing, and learning more about sailing, being a part of a sail club is a new experience. Rose is a little more interested in the social aspect. We both know that Western Carolina Sail Club has a terrific history, a great reputation, and wonderful facilities. So, we are really looking forward to making new friends and becoming better sailors on a new area of Lake Hartwell.



Steven Brown

I live here in Anderson along with my dog, Bella. I grew up here in Anderson and have been around the water all my life. I left Anderson to head to Charleston to attend The Citadel, and finally graduated in the summer of 2011. After the Citadel, I called Miami, South Korea, Fort Bragg, and Columbia home during my active-duty stint as an officer in the Army. I moved to Greenville in 2016 and recently moved back to Anderson in Feb of this year, buying a home near TL Hanna.

I recently acquired a 1972 C&C 30 that needs a lot of love. I have a little experience sailing in college and am looking to get back into it so I can confidently solo my C&C when she's ready. I look forward to joining the club, restoring this beautiful boat back to its prime, and soaking up as much advice as I can get!

To fill all the hours, I own an IT company that my father started, I am a skydiving instructor on the weekends at Anderson Airport, and an avid fan exploring new countries. I currently still serve as a Captain in the United States Army Reserve and always welcome a good war story. I look forward to becoming a part of your warm and welcoming sailing community.

Timothy J. Monahan and Jean Wilder

I recently retired, after working as a patent attorney for almost 40 years. I've been living in the Upstate since 1990 — first in Spartanburg, where I worked for Milliken & Company, then in Greenville, where I had my own practice. Jean has also been living in the Upstate since 1990. She worked as a nurse anesthetist for many years, then as a landscape architect. She retired in 2022.



I began sailing in 1980 on my friend's Hobie Cat in Santa Rosa Sound near Pensacola, Florida. After a long break, I rekindled my interest in sailing by obtaining my US Sailing Certifications. I completed the "Basic Keelboat" course with Ocean Sailing Academy in Charleston in 2004. I completed the "Basic Cruising" and "Bareboat Cruising" courses in the B.V.I. in 2005 with the Offshore Sailing School. Since then, I have sailed St. Vincent and the Grenadines in the Caribbean with friends, on a 44' catamaran that we chartered. I've been day sailing with friends in Charleston Harbor and Lake Hartwell.

Jean and I are looking forward to taking my recently purchased Hobie Cat 18 out on the lakes in the Upstate, as well as the comradery that the Western Carolina Sailing Club has to offer.



Tony and Christine Thomas

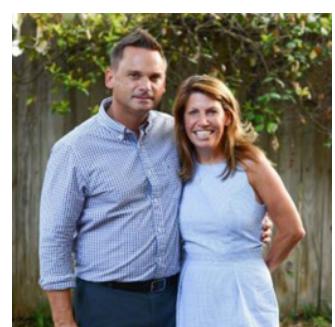
My wife and I have been married for 29 years. We have two sons, Zachary (Age 22) and Nicholas (Age 19). Zach is currently a student at Clemson University and Nicholas is currently a student at University of South Carolina. We lived in Greenville, SC for 18 years while we were raising our boys.

We became empty nesters in the summer of 2022 and moved to our current home located here on Lake Hartwell just down the road from the sailing club. We are outgoing people who absolutely love lake life. We are looking forward to being part of club!

Bill and Sandi Tullo

Hello, we are Bill and Sandi. We both moved up from Melbourne Florida although not together, fate would have us bump in to each other at The Home Depot in Simpsonville and

In Melbourne my life was Windsurfing. Moving to the upstate I lost the steady winds that made The Indian River Such a great place to Sailboard. I tried Hartwell but just wasn't the same and I thought, look at all these Sailboats. I found a 1958 Cape Cod Marlin 23 in Columbia SC. With some good advice from a friend I brought the Marlin to the Sail Club in 08. Had many wonderful years sailing then ran into my now wife at said Depot. We decided to pull away from the club to raise her three wonderful children. Well they are all grown up now and it's time to be on the lake again. We look forward to camping down the hill and cruising. I for sure am the sailor but I know she loves to float and camp. We both look forward to fun times with great people. Thank You.



Michael and Jill Burris

Hey Everyone, our names are Michael and Jill Burriss. We have recently purchased "Old Yeller" a 1980 Catalina 22' from a friend in the club and are looking forward to learning to sail. We met at Lander University and both graduated with education degrees. Michael was raised in Anderson and is a 1990 graduate from T.L. Hanna High School. Michael teaches English at Wren High School and coaches the Lady Canes Soccer Team in Anderson School District One. Jill was raised in Chapin, SC on Lake Murray and is a 1991 graduate of Chapin High. Jill teaches art at Mt. Lebanon Elementary in Anderson School District Four and is the President of the Upstate Daylily Society.

We have lived in Anderson together for 23 years. We live on Broadway Creek at the mouth of Broadway Lake in an old family home. We paddleboard, kayak and canoe out to the lake from our house often and have a great love of being on the water. We are close to retirement and our hopes are to make new friends and begin new adventures in life.

Marsha and Frank Harris

We are Marsha and Frank Harris. We relocated back to the Upstate Area (Pendleton) upon retirement three years ago from the Eastern North Carolina area. We are both retired Engineers. Frank worked for approximately 30 years in the power tool industry with Singer/Ryobi (In Anderson and Pickens) and DeWalt in Fayetteville, NC. He ultimately retired from the Agricultural industry after spending 16 years with Hog Slat as Development Engineering Director. Marsha also worked in engineering for Platt Saco Lowell, Singer/Ryobi and Eaton Corporation before retiring. We initially left the Upstate in 1999 due to work and decided to relocate back here upon retirement as two of our three children currently live in the area along with both of our grandchildren. We also enjoy our two dogs; Ellie the Golden Retriever and Millie the Golden Doodle.



Our exposure to sailing is minimal; mainly participating as visitors on sails with Basil Karlow and Bill Chasteen from time to time. Frank has had some sailing experience as a youth with Prams at summer camp and also Sunfish and Hobi Cats later in life. Our interest in WCSC is mainly from a social aspect. We have visited the club on several occasion with Basil and Bill and have enjoyed the events as well as meeting the many people in the club.

JUNIOR SAIL CAMP

By Joe Martin

2024 Junior Sail Camp will open on Monday, May 6, 2024!

WCSC's Junior Sail Camp provides instruction to juniors from age 8 through 18 (turning 18 in 2024) during two weekends in July. Instruction ranges from novice to advanced sailors in age and size appropriate fleets. Junior camp is a great way for youth to learn the lifelong sport of sailing!

Our 2024 summer camp will be held July 13-14 and 20-21. Prior to camp, a required swim test and orientation will be administered on June 8th and 22nd. Students, **with parents and/or legal guardian**, only need to attend one of the swim test and orientation sessions, but attending one of these sessions is required.

Registration for camp will open on May 6th for member children and grandchildren. Spaces will be limited and priority will be given to the children and grandchildren of members and youth club members. Any remaining spaces will be offered to non-member children via a waiting list. Non-club members on the sail camp waitlist will be placed in open sail camp classes beginning May 21st. This allows time for non-club members to plan appropriately. Club members who are interested in sail camp should complete registration and payment before May 20th. After May 20th, club members will be placed on first come first serve basis with non-club members.

To register for camp there are two easy steps, which must be completed in this order:

1. Complete registration forms via www.wcscsailcamp.com
2. Make payment

Both the above steps must be completed to confirm registration.

Other Important Notes:

Congratulations again to Ella Neff, the 2023 Junior Sportsmanship Award recipient.

Family fun day, APRIL 7th. This is for the entire family.... All the pertinent details are on the WCSC Calendar, date of April 7. Organized by Ella Neff.

Finally, keep an eye on the weekly news blast from the club as well as the club website to stay current with events.

DERBY DAMES REGATTA

By McCall Ginsberg

Set Sail in Style! Calling All Dames for the 2nd Annual Derby Dames Regatta!



Calling all sailing enthusiasts and hat aficionados! Mark your calendars for the 2nd Annual Derby Dames Regatta, supporting women's sailing on **Saturday, May 4th, 2024!**

Just like last year, this regatta coincides with the famed "Run for the Roses" (Kentucky Derby) and embraces the spirit of women's sailing, fancy hats, and spirited competition.

Dust off your most creative Derby attire and get ready for a fun day including:

- An exciting race with categories for: All Dames boats, Dame at the Helm, and Dame on Board, as well as a category for small single-handed boats such as Force 5's and Sunfish.
- Special recognition for junior dames, first-time regatta participants, best hat, and the most spirited boat.
- Fun prizes, hors d'oeuvres, iced tea, and mint juleps (of course!) to celebrate after we get off the water.

Registration is open on the club website, and early bird pricing ends on **April 27th**.

We can't wait to see you there for another fantastic year of the Derby Dames Regatta!

WCSC CLUB MEMBERS EIGHT BELLS (END OF WATCH)

By Lee Moses

Michael "Mike" Dewey Miros, passed away on June 4, 2023

"Michael "Mike" Dewey Miro, 83, of Greenville, passed away Sunday, June 4, 2023. Mike was born to Lucille Pack McManis and Charles Michael Miro on September 15, 1939 in Huntington, West Virginia. He spent his childhood moving around the United States and Europe with his stepfather's job in the U.S. Air Force, but always thought of Louisa, KY as 'home'. He graduated from Western Kentucky University with a BS in Psychology in 1963. He worked for many years as a manufacturer's rep and eventually opened his own business, Precision Machine, in 1995.

Mike was an avid sailor and spent decades sailing on Lake Hartwell as a member of Western Carolina Sailing Club, where he served as Commodore in 1987. He loved being on the water, captaining his boats, and teaching others how to sail and crew, including his children.

Mike was also a dedicated member of Knights of Columbus Council 1668 for 48 years. He served as Grand Knight from 1977 to 1978 and was a 4th Degree Sir Knight of Assembly 1073. He started the Christmas Food Basket program in 1972, a program that has continued successfully for the last 50 years, and was awarded the International Community Service Award for 1991-1992 by the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council.

Mike was an active member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Greenville for nearly 60 years, where he volunteered as a eucharistic minister.

Mike loved playing golf, restoring his 1958 Pontiac Chieftain, and reading. Above all, he loved to spend time with his family, who gathered together often. He was a loyal friend and generous to a fault, whether it was treating his grandchildren, buying a meal for someone in need, or lending a helping hand to a friend."

Bill Sloger, passed away on Nov. 19, 2023

Some remembrances of Bill Sloger by WCSC Club Members:

Ed Sherman:

"Bill Sloger was a gentleman and old school sailboat racing guru. Maybe that's the reason Bill has been one of our most respected members all these years. He became Commodore and showed up afterward at WCSC often, even though having moved to Charleston. He shared old school rules with us... keep the mark between your shrouds, no whistling on board, no bananas aboard. And one important sailing fact...learn how to determine the luff curve cut into every foresail and trim your forestay to that curve in light air for more boat speed. Bill's father Paul brought him up OSSR in New England, where sailboat racing is religion. In the late seventies and early eighties Paul moored his classic Star in WCSC's harbor along the causeway for everyone to admire driving into the Club. When you see a Star, you know someone knows something worth finding out about. Bill was raised on that Star. Bill felt there was no more responsibility to sailboat racing and sailing than to perform proper and effective Race Committee duty...no matter how much time it took or severity of weather conditions.

On a cold, blustery February day in the early eighties we endured a frostbite race around Andersonville Island. About a dozen boats were on the line that day with Bill Sloger manning our old RC boat as PRO. Trying to describe the old RC boat would be like describing an old barn. Three things it did have that day... good signal flags, and expensive brass signal cannon and a top-notch PRO. How many of those classic cannon's did we lose to the bottom of Hartwell Lake? Bill got us started with a 12-gauge shotgun shell in the gun. Now the wind started kicking and it got cold. After starting at S20, we headed in a counter clockwise direction down Andersonville and rounded the south end with 26 ATS in sight. Most of us knew the discomfort of being on the old RC boat on the best of days and to think Bill Sloger may still be back there enduring these waves and this cold seemed impossible.

Wind and waves kept building while we sailed under chutes on the backside. Trying to trim a chute in freezing cold, decent waves and 15+ winds ain't fun. By this time our boat was thinking, 'We better be having fun now because the RC boat will not be on station for our finish.' Too many waves and too windy. As we rounded into the Apple Island cut, we started looking for our finish line not believing anyone would be on station accepting finishers. But Bill was there and had been for hours, honoring his old school sailboat racing traditions. He clocked in every one of us, nuts. There was no better gentleman, sailor, PRO, friend or WCSC member than Bill Sloger."

Jim Hudson:

"Bill Sloger joined the Club on March 8, 1968, and instantly became an active member. In 1969 and 1970 he was Regatta Chair, responsible for all regattas and a very active racing program. Bill raced a Lightning and as I recall he was active in that class all his life. In the early 1970s when I became a member, he and Tom Bates were mentors to me and my boat partner, Jim Gasque.

Meanwhile, the Club was undergoing considerable financial stress brought on by an increase in Corps leases and debt obligations. Although members overwhelmingly approved a 50% increase in dues in 1969, many resignations resulted. Considerable effort was made on a plan of recovery. Bill developed the plan of graduated fees and dues as we have them today, the purpose of which was to make it easier for young families to join. This was to become a huge impact on our Club's ability to recruit new members because it made it less expensive for the younger prospects. Bill Sloger became commodore in 1971. During that year, due to a successful membership drive, Bill and the Board were considering a cap for membership.

In addition to this history, Bill was a huge influence to our Club and a great example to others - as a competitor, as a worker who was always involved and as a mentor to many others."

Brain Hampton:

"Bill was just a fun guy. I knew him because of sailing. Our other common interests helped us engage. I'd post about being at some obscure Mediterranean restaurant and Bill would message me about what was good there. That was awesome.

I had the privilege of discussing the history of WCSC with Bill. He helped me understand decisions made 50 years ago.

Bill was always eager to share and eager to help. A great role model for all of us. Eight bells Bill. We have the next watch."

Dennis Baker:

"Here is a good article from the Lightning Class at the link below with a lot of background information. As most know, Bill was a former Commodore at WCSC and his father was one of the original members at WCSC."

https://lightningclass.org/content.aspx?page_id=2507&club_id=93488&item_id=3032&pst=22913

Billy Lacher, passed away on Jan. 7, 2024

William Ludwig "Billy" Lacher passed away Sunday evening, January 7, 2024, at his home in Greenville SC. Billy was a native and lifelong resident of Greenville.

Billy was a member of Western Carolina Sailing Club for more than 30 years. In 1997 he served as Commodore. Billy had many passions: traveling with his family, camping, paddling, cycling, sailing, photography, napping, and eating ice cream.

Some remembrances of Billy Lacher by WCSC Club Members:

Ed Sherman:

"William Ludwig (Billy) Lacher was a religious child of God, dedicated family man and Master Jeweler, having owned J.B. Lacher's jewelers in Greenville for years. He was the only jeweler around who could repair vintage Bulova Accutron wrist watches. He designed and manufactured beautiful, original jewelry. He treated customers as neighbors and friends. Unknown to many was Billy's unselfish design, manufacture and engraving of custom sailing trophies for WCSC...some of sterling silver.

Billy was devoted to wife Dana and children Danny and Bridgette. He was a brother Clemson Tiger ('69). Not only was Billy a racing sailor, he was Past Commodore for WCSC. He was a conscientious and effective PRO who closely followed the RRS. Billy Lacher was the best Master of Ceremonies the club ever enjoyed. His relaxed demeanor, sense of humor and quick wit entertained members at banquets for years. Almost any day WCSC was having a sailing race Billy would be there, either in his own boat or crewing for someone. He enjoyed talking about trips across country, trailering sailboats, with other top WCSC racing sailors to race in national sailing regattas.

Billy Lacher was a skilled and avid road bicycle rider, who owned several bicycles. As an example of his love of the sport, he has ridden his bike from Greenville to Charleston on several occasions. That distance is 212 miles. He would often ride his bicycle from Greenville to WCSC – distance: 45 miles. Anytime Billy was encountered riding on the Swamp Rabbit Trail he would enjoy the stop to chat about his bike, sailing, travels and adventures, in particular the trip he and Dana once took out west.

Billy was a well-rounded, sporting man, a leader who found humor in many areas of life and was loved by all his friends. He could trim sails with the best of us, bicycle with the best of us and husband and father with the best of us."

Ed Sherman, passed away on February 10, 2024

Some remembrances of Ed Sherman by WCSC Club Members:

Basil Karlow:

"Ed was one of the best persons and friends I ever got to know.
I regret his passing to a better place.
You can write a book about
Ed Sherman and have a great time.
Happy Sailing my friend and hope we meet again!"

EIGHT BELLS CONT.

Curt Rubinstein:

"To my hero. I remember Ed Sherman with a smile on my face, envy in my eyes, respect in my mind and gratitude in my heart. Oh, the list of stories we could all tell about Ed. From his brilliance in writing sailing stories about his adventures on the water, to his storied life as a Tight end at Clemson University and his travels with Bev. When one least expected it, Ed would publish a feeling by feeling drama about someone else's life on the water. The waves in Ed's stories seem to come to life, the clouds were more beautiful and the sailor's spirit was never braver. At the end of each tale one put down Ed's letters in amazement. Ed Sherman personally reached out to me offering help when my rudder disappeared under E dock. He and Keat P were determined in their underwater search for my lost blade. Diving more than 5 times. When found the Club erupted in applause all around at their honorism. The best part wasn't the rescue but hearing Ed tell the story over and over. My hero Ed was not only a statuesque man but a bit quirky too. I can remember seeing this mountain of a man motor his zodiac out just beyond the breakwater on any sunny day laying naked under the summer sun. We would steer young sailors away from the Zodiac rather than squelch Ed's true Spirit, by the way the name of Ed's Eschel was "Spirit". A fitting depiction of Ed Sherman. Rest in peace my friend, fair winds and following seas. You'll be remembered forever."

Ronnie Ashmore:

"Ed had been a member of WCSC since 1978. He would have turned 85 on Tuesday, February 13th. He loved WCSC and was a very active member. His talents were many. He was a regular on the breakwater, bringing it up from the bottom of the harbor numerous occasions. He was a diver for the mooring team before we even had a team. He liked to sew making dock flags, class flags for race committee, knife sheaths, boat bags, etc. He made the big black pirate spinnaker for his Etchells named "Spirit" which he spent many countless hours restoring from junk (to most of us), into the beautiful boat that she is. He was big into history, and especially into genealogy where he was a member of the Mayflower Society. He was big on flag etiquette, just do it wrong and he would let you know. He was an active racer in the keel boat fleet starting at the bottom and gradually working his way up through the ranks to taking home some of the top trophies. We learned together about racing and sailed on many occasions on his Tanzer 22 "Dove" and on "Spirit". He was a talented writer and handled club publicity for a time. He was also a member of the Greenville Power Squadron engaged in the promotion of education and safe boating. The list goes on!"

Spencer Mathews:

"I was drifting up to the main launch ramp late one afternoon when my outboard jumped to high revs and I looked over the side only to see the plastic prop and threaded cone spinning down to the bottom (about 17 feet). Months of inattention had let the cotter pin rust away. I tied up to the dock and was sitting and wondering how I'd retrieve them.

A member I'd never met (Ed, of course) came down from the parking lot asking if I had a problem. Hearing my red-faced explanation, he said that perhaps he could help.

He returned to the parking lot and brought back his Scuba gear. It was late in the day, the water was dark, and I tried to dissuade him. I have never dived. My daughter, Amberin, has dived with Ed on the breakwater several times since that afternoon. She admires him and when I let her know of his passing, she was much distressed.

You can probably guess the rest of the story. Ed slipped on his gear and into the lake. I knew, as perhaps you do too that the ramp was anchored to the bottom with cables and I fretted that there was a single diver down with no competent help at hand on a task that I regarded as hopeless.

In less than a few minutes Ed surfaced and laid both the plastic prop and threaded cone on the dock. And I learned a lot about a member I'd never met."

EIGHT BELLS CONT.

Keat Pruszenski

"We lost a good friend and great club member. He was a club mentor to me many times, and we shared diving adventures. He did the fancy work surrounding the parking lot with distinction.

I'll miss him and cherish his memory."

Ed Sherman's Diving Adventure: Find Curt's Rudder!

By Keat Pruszenski:

"I was a relatively new diver, with only about 20 dives under my belt. Not like Ed who was masterful and dove with a variety of well broken-in equipment. I had dove with him once already, seeking treasure at the bottom of the harbor. His passion for underwater adventure was infectious. He taught me many things about diving during our many dives together.

One day, Ed came and found me on our boat and was desperate for a diving buddy. He told me Curt Rubinstein had tried to go sailing, but discovered that he no longer had a rudder when he had tried to leave his slip! Ed wanted me to help him dive and retrieve Curt's rudder, ultimately saving Curt quite some trouble and expense. This would prove to be difficult since Curt could not pinpoint exactly where the rudder detached and sank.

We had to assume that the rudder was nearby since Curt had successfully backed into his slip after his last sail. I suggested a pattern search to Ed, since maintaining location and orientation on the bottom is difficult at best in 4-foot visibility. Fortunately, I was fresh out of recent diving classes and they had taught us how to do a search pattern. Ed agreed with my idea, and we prepared for a dive. We dropped a buoy one boat length off the center of Curt's slip and assumed that the rudder should be close to there. We were to dive with a 3 ft. length of PVC between us hand-in-hand to keep together. I was to use my compass to search out from the buoy anchor in an expanding search pattern.

Down we went following the buoy anchor line. After reaching bottom we began our search. I realized quickly this was going to be difficult. With all my tugging on the PVC, I couldn't get Ed to follow my directions! His massive size resisted all of my attempts to keep him on course. Eventually, the compass showed we had turned 90 degrees to the right and any attempts to find the buoy again would be futile. And worse, Ed just kept chugging along the bottom like a Manatee dragging me with him, somewhere under D-Dock. I tried to get Ed's attention so we could surface, re-hash our plans and try again. However, when I tugged on the PVC to get his attention, he yanked it back like we were in a tug-of-war! He grabbed my hand and pulled me towards him. He shoved my hand down to the bottom and onto something he had found. I quickly realized that he had found the rudder! The rudder was nowhere near where we had planned to search. Somehow during its descent, it traveled all the way out to the last boat on the dock close to the channel. Curt's boat slip, was 9 boats away (~50 yards) and very close to shore. Had we not gotten off our search track, we probably would not have found it that far away. It seemed the entire sailing club cheered when we surfaced with the news!

We spent a lot of time reinstalling the heavy rudder in Curt's boat, all the while Ed teasing Curt about how much money he was saving by our services and the value of our efforts! He hinted in jest that we probably should share some of the savings a replacement rudder would cost. It was the only time I have ever seen Curt squirm, and to Ed's delight! Ed was very proud of the results of our dive. We dove several times during my friendship with Ed Sherman."

QUARTER 2 CALENDAR

April 6	1000	Centerboard Fleet Meeting	Dan Neff, Centerboard Fleet Captain
	1200	Centerboard Fleet Race #3	KIEMELE, Steve, Randy Bannister, Curt Rubinstein, Jennifer Hackemeyer, Zide Lu, Jeff Cooper, Daniel Dailey
13	0830	Board Meeting	BOS Monthly Meeting Held at Clubhouse
	0900	Dam Distance Race	Glenn KILLINGER PRO, Terhune Sudderth, Jeff Kaisner, Susan Whitehead
	1000	Sailing Yard Sale	Ron Moede
18-21		Charleston Race Week	Premier Racing Event in Charleston, SC
20	1000	Keelboat Fleet Meeting	Chuck Ballew, Fleet Captain
	1200	Keelboat Fleet Spring PHRF Race #4	ASHMORE, Ronnie, Bill Chasteen, Yuri Ivanov, Samuel Albergotti, Brooke Johnson, David Pearson, Aditya Mishra
	1600	WOW Committee Meeting	Allison Fontenot, WOW Committee
	1800	B Dock Party	Ron Moede, Hosted by B Dock
21	1200	Centerboard Fleet Race #4	CHESER, Wayne, Blake Christoffersen, Scott Smith, Hank Wright, John Yeary, Tom Dames, Garrett Pyros, Anthony Pascone
26	1900	Learn to Sail	Learn to Sail Team
27	0800	Work day #2	Rear Commodore Dacia Schrecengost
27-28	0900	Learn to Sail	Learn to Sail Team
	1000	Club Championships	SAUVAIN, Ted, Saturday: Tommy Craft, David Van Emburg, Jim Culwell, Ben Gibson, Frans van Zeeland, Mark Linser, Scott Brown, Hamish Richardson, Kristopher Henkel; Sunday: Dan T. Maret, Jr, Lee Moses, Curtis Poole, Randy McBride, Charles Carter, Frank Wyman, Matthew Blomberg, Zane Reeves, Chase Boscovich
May 4	0900	WOW Derby Dames Regatta	Allison Fontenot, McCall Ginsberg, WOW Committee, PRO Brian Hampton, Mark Nichols, Allan Benson, Joseph Rohe
11	0830	Board Meeting	BOS Monthly Meeting Held at Clubhouse
	1200	Keelboat Fleet Spring PHRF Race #5	KNIGHT, Tyler, Marvin Brinn, Ron Moede, William Travitz, John Cribb, Jonathan Partain, Daniel Pasko, John Hanselman
18	1200	Centerboard Fleet Race #5	JACOBSEN, Eric, Brad Bolt, Larry Stansell, Robert Reeves, Daniel Lord, David Magnuson, Paul Boehm
19	1600	WOW Committee Meeting	Allison Fontenot, WOW Committee
24	1830	Friday Night Dinghy Races	Eric Seymour, FNDR Captain, Rick FONTENOT PRO, Robert Smith, John Lipinski
25	1800	Memorial Day Party	Paul Harder, Hosted by C Dock
June 1	1000	Around Andersonville Island	Andrea and Werner Lehmann, Dan TEGEL PRO, Liliya Nagimova, Robert Klassen, Jim Hanson
7	1830	Friday Night Dinghy Races	Eric Seymour, FNDR Captain, Rick FONTENOT PRO, TBD
8	0830	Board Meeting	BOS Monthly Meeting Held at Clubhouse
	1800	D Dock Party	Larry Stansell, Hosted by D Dock
10		Windsong Deadline	Karen Miros
15	1400	WOW Summer Social	Maria Bolan, WOW Committee
21	1830	Friday Night Dinghy Races	Eric Seymour, FNDR Captain, Rick FONTENOT PRO, Richard Christensen, Andrew McHenry
22	0800	Work Day #3	Rear Commodore Dacia Schrecengost
29	1400	Lake Hartwell Fireworks at the Dam	Cruising Fleet

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