



BIRMINGHAM  
SAILING CLUB

August 2003

# The Hornblower

## COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

*It's great to see so many of our members taking advantage of the Club during this summer, when normally participation in sailing falls off a little. Participation in Sunday races as well as the special One Day's and other events such as the Couple's Regatta has been quite good.*

*Thanks to the efforts of Bo Smith and an exceptionally good contractor, we have not only very functional but quite attractive ramps to all of the floating docks, and new land side piers. Bo also had the contractor add steps to the swimming area, making it much more accessible – especially for small children.*

*Speaking of swimming, I call your attention to the rules for the "Use of Club Facilities"... "swimming is permitted only from the north dock". This refers to the dock in front of the Junior Club House, which is commonly referred to as the "swimming dock". Swimming from the other docks puts the swimmer at great risk to an accident, particularly with the large number of PWC's operating at high speed in close proximity to our docks. At one of our regattas a couple months ago, I observed two crew members jump off a visiting boat on its way to our docks, swimming to the dock. We turned one of our patrol boats around to accompany them in... passing the docks on the Pleasure Island as they came in was a little unnerving as power boats moved in and around the swimmers.*

*If it's too hot for you, how about thinking about Christmas!! I have asked the Board to change the format and venue for the Christmas party this year, and they have agreed to have the annual Christmas party at our Club House on Saturday, December 6, from 12 noon to 5 pm. MARK YOUR CALENDARS! Richard May has a "bag full of ideas" for the party which will be geared toward the younger members, but should be a great party for all ages. For the more formal traditional Sailing Club Christmas parties, I have asked the Fleets to put more emphasis on their individual Fleet Christmas parties.*

*Come visit the Club! As soon as you arrive at the front gates you will be impressed with the changes... thanks to master designer and welder Richard Condrey.*

Commodore Harry

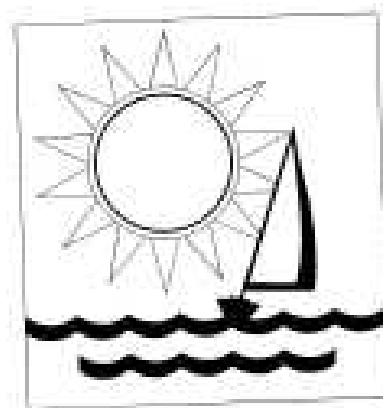
## **Too Hot to Trot One-Day Regatta**

**Saturday, August 16**

**0900 Registration**

**1000 Skippers**

**1100 First Race**



**WOMEN SKIPPERS TAKE HOMECOMING REGATTA HONORS**

Twenty-six boats raced in three fleets at the Homecoming Regatta, July 5<sup>th</sup>. Tina Irwin won the open fleet, Carol Gordon the J22 fleet, and Dave Whitehart the Scot fleet. Competitors raced three races and then gathered at the club house with more members, past members, past Commodores and several charter members to celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Birmingham Sailing Club. Members and guests enjoyed refreshments provided by Richard May and two large photo boards provided by Mike Neilson. The Commodore presented the Caldwell family with a framed collage of Sam, the BSC burgee and list of charter members.

**USING BSC POWER BOATS**

Capt. Terry Waldron

Is it hot yet ? Yes... summer is in full swing and the BSC power boats are "Hot to Trot" for the August 16th regatta . So come on out to race, help the race committee, entertainment people , food prep. or cleanup and above all.... have a good time and enjoy our club facilities.

A few things about the BSC power boats mates and we can keep them running smooth. Do not mix any 2 stroke oil with gas. The Mercury 30 hsp and Evinrude 50 hsp are oil injected 2 stroke engines. The 2 stroke oil is in a dedicated container for that engine and is automatically mixed. Isn't technology grand.....I keep the oil containers topped off , but it does not hurt to check up on me. I have been known to partake in certain Sailor beverages during this Hot to Trot summer to cool off.

The boat batteries are all charged ( famous last words )... but if you have a weak Batt. on one of the power boats , just go to the " local" metal storage Bldg. and get a new one !! There are two chrg. Batt. just waiting to see action !! Now the Batt. terminal connections on the boats are tight so you will need a tool. We know how good sailors are with their tools.....

Now for that little, but important fuel vent screw on the fuel cap on the portable gas tanks. Well guys..... un screw the darn thing please..... if you do not, a vacuum forms in the tank and can actually collapse the tank. Not to mention the outboard engine is starving for fuel and will stall.

Now we are supposed to tow the sailboats in when the wind dies ( but not in August ) not the other way around , if the tank has formed a big vacuum and you are drifting . Then you wave frantically at the other committee boat , but they are on their way to the dock to partake in more sailor beverages....

Last .... but not least BSC sailors..... please help clean the boats and keep the dock storage area clean and organized. I clean and organize after some of the Sunday races. I mean it only takes a few minutes to coil and secure the lines, hang stuff neatly, wipe down the power boats as you are on the water ( cleaning rags are on the boats )... hey.... Logan Martin Lake water could be bottled as a cleaning agent. Tie up the boats properly and always secure the spring line on the large pontoon boat. Look at how the boats are secured and try to tie them up accordingly.

So mates...please help us with these seaworthy requests and we will see you at the windward mark; as an ole retired commodore once said.... he is now a professional Cajun dancer. Much more later on the BSC power boats.... and I might even tell you some of my wild sea stories from Haiti and other ports of the Caribbean . (Most of them are true and legal)

**HOMECOMING REGATTA RESULTS**

<i>Open Fleet :</i>	
1	T. Irwin
2	Bearden
3	Yelverton
4	Papp
5	Rogers
6	Acton
7	May
8	Gilliom
9	Henderson
10	B. Blass
11	Schiller
12	Drosdick
<i>J/22 Fleet:</i>	
1	C. Gordon
2	Priola
3	Blythe
4	Killion
5	Berry
<i>Flying Scot Fleet:</i>	
1	Whitehart
2	P. Reich
3	D. Blass
4	McCary
5	Condrey
6	Fundin
7	McConnell
8	Pyburn
9	Glasgow

### **BSC COUPLES REGATTA**

Sam Yelverton

Hello everyone! Sunday, August 20 is the date for BSC Couples Regatta. Stan Muse is listed as our PRO, with the Hartley's named as event chair. Come join in this fun day. There is a \$ 5.00 per boat registration and the first race starts at 2:00 p.m. Weather permitting, there will be three races. While the race committee calculates the Portsmouth finishes, everyone is invited to the "attitude adjustment" social. There is a beautiful perpetual trophy for this regatta. Kent Irwin, current champion, will not be present to defend his title. So, here's your big opportunity to get your names engraved on the trophy!

### **2003 J/22 SOUTHEASTERN CIRCUIT COMPETITION; REGGAE REGATTA**

Bill Berry

The 2003 J/22 Southeastern Circuit series began with J/22 fleet competition at our Ironman Regatta. Aply assisted by crew, Tim Shultz and Bob Blythe, we traveled my J/22 to the second event of the year, the Reggae Regatta, which was hosted by Lake Lanier Sailing Club on June 21 and 22. We competed against six other J/22s, including some other out of town boats and some LLSC member boats. We sailed well at times and in some of the five races but did not come away with trophies, finishing fifth of the seven boats. As has become the norm in J/22 regattas, the courses were all windward-leeward. The race committee chose to use a leeward gate but no windward offset mark. The starting line was used as the finish line, and the "gate" was closed, a rule we came to like. This was due to the number of one-design fleets starting at different times, resulting in some fleets finishing when others were sailing a leg near the central finish line area. One unwelcome surprise on Sunday was a significant motor boat chop, which was on our bow as we sailed downwind! We noted that there were large fleets of Catalina 22s and J/24s, as well as a handicap fleet consisting of diverse types of auxiliary boats and several junior fleets. The LLSC regatta committee had good plans, members of the J/22 Fleet and other members were most hospitable, and the on shore events, especially the Caribbean Feast, were quite enjoyable. All in all, we met our goal of supporting J/22 regattas in our area, and hopefully built some bridges for future inter-club competition.

### **J/22 FLEET NEWS**

Bob Blythe, Fleet Captain, J/22 Fleet #14

The July 5<sup>th</sup> Homecoming Regatta provided lots of excitement and uncharacteristically good winds. We had five J/22's competing in good wind. The competition was fierce for the top spot with three different boats taking firsts. The overall winners were Mike and Carol Gordon, who edged out Vincent Priola The Blythes finished third. We also had a great turnout for the June 29<sup>th</sup> J/22 fleet day.

The inaugural J/22 Spring Series concluded with the Homecoming Regatta. Thanks go out to all of the J/22 sailors, both skippers and crew, whose participation made this series a success. We had some really exciting sailing and most importantly, the turnout was great. In the Caldwell, J/22 One-Day and Ironman regattas, we had five BSC J/22s competing in each regatta. Turnout for the One-days and J/22 Fleet days was also good. Conditions varied from whitecaps and winds in the twenties on March 30<sup>th</sup> to the drifting conditions (as in a dozen boats drifting backwards in the current just shy of the windward mark) of the Spring Blooms one-day regatta. (I'm told the best sailor's "shift gears" as the wind conditions change. Several of us found out that sailboats also have a reverse gear that day.) Fred Smith was first overall, followed by the Killions in second. Bob and Rebecca Blythe won the tie breaker over Bill Berry for third. Skippers will be receiving details for the fall series soon via e-mail.

Bill Berry took his boat to the Reggae Regatta in Atlanta to compete in the second event of the J/22 Southeast District Circuit. For details, see Bill's report in this issue of the Hornblower. The next event on the circuit is the Equalizer Regatta at the Percy Priest Yacht Club in Nashville October 25 and 26. Let's try to send two or three BSC boats to that event.

Bill also took his boat down for the summer on the Coast series in Pass Christian and Gulfport, Mississippi. Rebecca and I had the pleasure of crewing for him on the third weekend. The thunderstorms held off, and the sea breeze filled in on both days. It was great sailing with good wind. The level of competition was high, with the New Orleans sailors battling it out for the series championship.

#### **Mark your calendar with these upcoming events:**

Too Hot to Trot one-day--August 16<sup>th</sup> (Fall Series # 2)

J/22 Fleet day-- August 31<sup>st</sup> (Fall Series # 3)

J/22 Fleet day-- September 14<sup>th</sup> (Fall Series # 4)

Leukemia Cup--September 20/21 (Fall Series # 5)

Let's have at least five J/22's on the starting line for each of these BSC events.

They gave us some great tips on restaurants and the hospitality was great. If you need a break from the summer doldrums, this is a great series.

## THANK YOU

Special thanks to the following people:

- + Tim Shultz' father, **George E. Shultz**, for re-caning two of the porch rockers
- + **Richard Condrey**, for building a new starting pin
- + **Ernie McConnell** and his son-in-law, for painting the deck benches with wood preservative
- + **Terry Waldron** for a very professional job of analyzing and correcting the problem with the Honda 50 motor and fixing it
- + **Richard Condrey**, for the fabulous new gates!!!!!!!
- + ... and Richard thanks **Jim Griffin and his son Justin** (new members) for their help with the gates



## GARRISON AND TORBERT RACE IN O'DAY QUARTERFINALS

Pauline Neilson

Rob Garrison and Dave Torbert represented Birmingham Sailing Club to race in the Gulf Yachting Association (GYA) quarterfinals of the U.S. Sailing Singlehanded Championship, the George D. O'Day Trophy. Garrison and Torbert raced Lasers for the event at the Mobile Yacht Club, June Garrison finished third and Torbert fifth in the three race regatta.

## REICHS WIN COUPLES RACES

David Reich and daughter, Emma, outpaced nine other couples to win the 2003 Couples Races. The Reichs finished 2,1,1 to win the event, passing the Neilsons with 1,2,2. David and Emma's names will join other Pine Harbor Yacht Club, Marina Bay Yacht Club and BSC sailor's names on the "flying dolphins" perpetual trophy. The trophy was donated by J. Norman and Pat Lynch and Sam and Paulette Yelverton in 1988 to the Pine Harbor Yacht Club. Finishes were:

1 D.Reich	6 Binnings
2 Neilson	7 Blythe
3 Priola	8 Pewitt
4 Yelverton	9 Bo Smith
5 H.Reich	10 Torbert

## GYA UPDATE

Kent Irwin

Michel Pap, Richard May and Kent Irwin represented BSC and the GYA Candler regatta hosted by St Andrews Bay Yacht Club. Saturday Richard and Kent decided to two-man it and be close to minimum weight. To our surprise the wind was a steady 20 knots with gusts over 25 knots. The local GYA teams were complaining about too much wind again this year. The RC wisely started the twelve teams in the protected waters in front of the St. Andrew's Bay Yacht Club. With the wind out of the Southeast the main bay had very large waves. Richard and Kent had a ride of their lives on the downwind runs and lived to tell it. Only one boat in the fleet capsized. In the second race the wind picked up more. Navy withdrew with a broken halyard. Richard and Kent started the race and withdrew to the safety of the harbor. Michel Pap had just arrived and was game for a practice session. Out we went again and sailed for another hour. Sunday the wind was just as strong as before. We had drafted a junior sailor the night before and things were a lot more manageable. Again the Old Blue gave the riders a thrilling ride downwind.

We packed up the boat, said our goodbyes and headed back to Birmingham with smiles on our faces.

**NEILSON AND BINNINGS WIN SPRING BLOOMS ONE DAY**

Jim Binnings won the Thistle fleet and Mike Neilson won the Open fleet honors at the Spring Blooms One Day, May 24.

Five Thistles raced the event with Binnings finishing 2, 2, 1 to take the day.

**Spring Blooms Thistle Fleet Results**

Binnings	2, 2, 1	5	1
D. Reich	3, 1, 2	6	2
R. May	1, 5, 4	10	3
H. Reich	5, 3, 3	11	4
M. Schuster	4, 4, 6	14	5

The Open fleet had 13 boats with Neilson finishing 1,2,2 followed by Kent Irwin, 4,1,1 racing a Highlander with his Mallory team mates, Rob Garrison and Mike Gordon.



**Spring Blooms Open Fleet Results**

Neilson	1, 2,	5	1
K. Irwin	4, 1, 1	6	2
T. Irwin	6, 3, 14	23	3
Acton	3, 7, 14	24	4
Papp	7, 4, 14	25	5
Pyburn	2, 9, 14	25	6
Whikehart	5, 8, 14	27	7
Killion	10, 5, 14	29	8
Rogers	9, 6, 14	29	9
Blythe	8, 11, 14	33	10
Stumb	12, 10, 14	36	11
Torbert	11, 12, 14	37	12
Sackellares	14, 14, 14	42	13

**YELVERTON WINS SUMMER SOLSTICE ONE DAY**

Twelve boats raced the Open fleet at the Summer Solstice One Day, June 21. Sam and Paulette Yelverton won honors with 2,1,1 finishes in the Open fleet and Jim Binnings took first in the Thistle fleet with 1,1,1.

BSC also welcomed members of the adult learn to sail class who raced in Flying Scots, taking the helm from their BSC instructors in their own start. I

Instructors were: Rob Garrison, Kent Irwin, Mike Gordon, Bert Denton, Dave Whikehart, Michael Papp and Dennis Blass.

BSC members/spouses/SO's in the class included Caroline and Robert Daniel, Donald and Ann Sweeney, Susan Phillips, Carla Hill, Lee Sumner, Mike and Jeanette Schuster, and Tom Hontzas.

Class members were introduced at the trophy ceremony and all received trophies for their participation. Joe and Drew Spransy furnished hors d'oeuvre and beverages with Solstice decorations for attitude adjustment.

**Summer Solstice Open Fleet Results**

Yelverton	2, 1, 1	4	1
Priola	1, 3, 2	6	2
Ellis	4, 2, 4	10	3
Fundin	3, 4, 3	10	4
Torbert	5, 5, 5	15	5
Hutchins	6, 6, 6	18	6
Gautier	7, 8, 8	23	7

**Summer Solstice Thistle Fleet Results**

Binnings	1, 1, 1	3	1
May	3, 2, 2	7	2
Gilliom	2, 3, 6	11	3
Blair	4, 5, 3	12	4
Schuster	5, 4, 6	15	5

## MALLORY CUP SEMI FINALS

Kent Irwin

Kent Irwin, Mike Gordon and Rob Garrison represented BSC and was one of two representatives from DIRA, Dixie Inland Racing Association, for this years Mallory Area D Semi Finals. Six teams from the Southeast region met at Lake Norman Yacht Club on July 12th.

We arrived at LNYC Saturday morning to eyeball our competitors and get acquainted with the area. We looked around the club trophy cases and found Tom Lawton, LNYC entry, on many of the trophies. Scott Cline and his Highlander-experienced crew cruised in looking cool and confident. Zak Famberg and his lightweight and deeply-tanned crew, representing the GYA, were lounging around the club. LNYC is located in an affluent area of Charlotte, NC and we were very impressed with the homes and the size of the club. There was a lot of activity this Saturday morning. Charlie Fowler, of Fowler Sails, represented FSA and Mike Baczynski was LNYC's second entry.

After a brief discussion and vote by the competitors to allow a second GYA team to compete, the six teams drew their first boat and set sail. The wind was light and the chop created by motor boats was the largest our crew had ever seen. There was a steady stream of 25+ foot deep V motor boats moving at high speeds through the racecourse all day. This was NOT like sailing on Logan Martin.

Our first boat had a tiller that rubbed on the transom and gave no "feel" to the driver. After a tight start we finished next to last. It turned out this boat generally finished next to last all day. We then swapped boats; the boat exchange was the biggest challenge of the day by all teams in the wicked Lake Norman chop. The second race we had a very tough start and finished last. This boat had finished last the previous race too, but we were feeling like we were out of our league. It looked like it was going to be a long afternoon but the wind freshened and our next boat won the first race. We had a great start, were first to the weather mark and finished second. The next three races were like this race with good starts and rounding the weather mark first or second only to be passed on the long downwind legs.

Zak Famberg from the GYA won the event and will represent Area D in the finals. Zak did a great job sailing smoothly in the chop. Scott Cline was second, Tom Lawton third and we finished a close third. Like so many races there were two races going on, the top four and the other two. We were very happy to be mixing it up with the top four teams with respectable finishes.

Sailing with Mike Gordon and Rob Garrison is a driver's dream come true. These guys are so knowledgeable, experienced and quick. They had it down each time we changed boats to set the boat up quickly and be ready to go again.

We are looking forward to sailing again in the Mallory and DIRA is the host area for the Semi-Finals.

## LEARN TO SAIL

Ages 15 and up

Wednesday, Sept. 10, 7:00 – 9:00 pm  
Wednesday, Sept. 17, 7:00 – 9:00 pm  
Wednesday, Sept. 24, 7:00 – 9:00 pm  
Saturday, Sept. 27, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm  
Wednesday, Oct. 1, 7:00 – 9:00 pm  
Sunday, Oct. 5, 1:00 – 5:00 pm

For BSC members and their guests  
Cost \$35 per person (including book)  
Wednesday classes in Riverchase near G  
Saturday and Sunday classes at BSC



This course is for non-sailors and novice sailors who want to learn how to sail a dinghy under lake conditions. The Wednesday night classroom sessions will cover sailing basics and safety. Saturday and Sunday classes at the Birmingham Sailing Club will be hands on --- in a boat --- on the water. Class members will have the opportunity to crew in a race in the last class. This course is taught by BSC members who are U.S. Sailing certified instructors.

Preregistration required by September 1 – registration form at [www.birminghamclub.org/learntosail.htm](http://www.birminghamclub.org/learntosail.htm)

### Questions? Contact:

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#### **BSC 2003 OFFICERS**

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<i>Pauline Neilson</i>	Vice Commodore
<i>Bill Berry</i>	Secretary
<i>Jim Sisson</i>	Treasurer
<i>Mike Gordon</i>	Past Commodore

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\* = 2003 Governor

