

The Binnacle

A newsletter of the



Lake Guntersville Sailing Club

<http://www.lakeguntersville.com>

September 2006

Activities at a Glance...and the LGSC Race Schedule

SEPTEMBER

- **Sat., September 2**

10 a.m. LGSC Board meeting in the clubhouse.

- **Sat., September 2 – 3**

Cruise to Goose Pond – Overnite. Leave LGSC; noon to 2 p.m. Dinner at “The Docks”. See more information in Race Committee article.

- **Sun., September 3**

Race Clinic – Boat Tuning. Time TBA

6 p.m. Pot Luck Social - Bring whatever you wish to grill and a dish to share if possible.

- **Mon., September 4**

‘Round the Buoys Race. 10 a.m. Skipper’s meeting with an 11 a.m. start.

- **Sat., September 9**

LGSC Cruiser Pursuit Series. 10 a.m. Skipper’s meeting with an 11 a.m. start.

- **Sat., September 16**

LGSC Race to the Dam. Skipper’s meeting at 9 a.m. with a 10:30 a.m. start.

- **September 29 – 31**

TVCC Regatta at Wheeler. See more information in this newsletter.

- **Sat., September 30**

10 a.m. LGSC Board meeting in the clubhouse.

LGSC Cruiser Pursuit Series. Skipper’s Meeting at 11 a.m. with a 12 noon start.

OCTOBER• **Fri., October 6**

BCSA Great River Race. Skipper's Meeting TBA

• **Sat., October 7**

BCSA Great River Race. Start time TBA

• **Sat., October 14**

10 a.m. LGSC Board Meeting in the clubhouse.

• **Fri. October 20**

6 p.m. Autumn Challenge Spaghetti Dinner

7 p.m. Autumn Challenge Skipper's Meeting

• **Sat., October 21**

10:30 a.m. LGSC Autumn Challenge start

**COMMODORE'S COMMENTS**

Hello everyone, I'm sorry we've been out-of-pocket the last 3-4 months due to sickness and passing of my mother in-law. Deanna and I would like to thank everyone for the comforting cards, phone calls, prayers and hugs. We truly THANK YOU.

We've got some exciting things yet to come this year. The Labor Day weekend cruise to Goose Pond Colony is an overnighter; had a lot of fun last year. Autumn Challenge is coming up Oct. 21. We had an excellent time going to the dam and locking thru and a lot of wind coming back. I've got some good pictures I will put in the club house. We also have several new boats and new faces. I'm looking forward to meeting you new folks soon. It will have to cool down some time hopefully in the near future. I love the autumn time of the year. It comes with WIND.

Sea ya on the water. Charlie

The Tennessee Valley Challenge Cup (TVCC) is being held at Wheeler State Park September 29, 2006 to October 1, 2006. This is a regatta that is put on by all the TN valley sailing clubs, on a rotational basis. We need to support this race, as we would like them to support us when we host it. Go to the web page <http://www.lakeguntersvillesailingclub.com/> to get notice of race and instructions.



Greetings from the Social Committee!

We have some fun events scheduled for this fall, so mark your calendars. On Labor Day weekend we are planning a sailing/motoring trip to Goose Pond Marina for an overnight there. We tentatively plan to leave our dock on Saturday Sept. 2 around noonish and head north up the river about 14 miles. We made this same trip last Labor Day and had a great turnout. We can plug in to power at the marina and have dinner at "The Docks" restaurant that evening, which is a short walk away. We will head for home on Sunday at your own leisure. That Sunday evening, back at our clubhouse we will have a potluck cookout.....bring whatever you wish to grill and a dish to pass if possible. Keith Kuhlman will be available for a racing/boat speed discussion if anyone is interested. Then on Monday morning at 10:00 am Keith will have a Round the Buoys race.

So come on out, have some fun and participate in our Labor Day activities!

In October we will not have a social dinner on the first Saturday of that month as The Great River Race will be held that day, which is October 7th. This is an annual long distance race which is held by Browns Creek Sailing Club. If you do not intend to sail your boat in the race, make sure and catch a ride with someone else. This is always a fun event and the more on your boat, the merrier!!

On Saturday, October 21st we will have the Autumn Challenge race. There will be a dinner that evening, so plan on attending even if you don't race. Further information about those plans will be coming up soon. Don't forget to check our events calendar in the porch area for upcoming functions or the LGSC website. We know everyone is looking for those fall winds and cooler temps...so make sure those summer repairs are complete and hope to see you soon on the water!



FROM THE RACE CHAIRMAN

Well it's been a long, hot, dry spell for wind since we were last out chasing each other. Even then the wind only blew for half the race. Let's hope for a better time this fall.

I am starting things back up in September with a try at 'Round the Buoys racing on Labor Day, Sept. 4th. Hope we will have a good turn out for the Goose Pond Cruise. The plan is to leave the LGSC on Saturday, Sept. 2nd, sometime between noon and 2 pm and cruise up to Goose Pond. We will let the early birds leave when they want and hold back a boat or two until 2 pm for any stragglers. We will dock at the Marina (shore power!!) and dine at *The Docks*. Plan is to return to LGSC on Sunday and perhaps we can put together pot luck dinner for those staying over night at the club. If there is interest I can do a short clinic on boat speed, tuning, starting, rules, etc. to get us ready for some around the buoys racing on Monday. We will start early so those poor souls that don't live in paradise can head for home!!

I put something down for each weekend in September (I have a C-22 regatta to go to Sept. 23rd). Guess I am in withdrawal from these dog days of July and August. We will try alternating buoy and pursuit racing for a few weeks. We will see how that goes. On September 16th I scheduled a really long "race" to the Dam, or somewhere in that direction. We will try to dream up some fun stuff to do along the way so we don't get too spread out. If the wind is good we should get there in time to have a lunch raft up and head home.

The Great River Race is on Saturday, October 7th. Friday night will be the skipper's meeting at the BCSA club house. This is a great event put on by BCSA. If the wind is good it is easy to finish the "Short Course", of two laps, before dark. I really encourage everyone to come out for at least the "Short Course". The "Long Course" goes for four laps from below Lower Guntersville light to Seibold Light and back. That makes for about a 30 mile race. A bit much for me. For those that think even the short course will be too long, come out anyway and do one turn. I will ask the Race Committee to take times after one lap so we can score our own little sub race. Remember this is one of the events for the BCSA Cruiser Pursuit Challenge.

October 21st we have our Autumn Challenge. This will be restricted to cruisers only as we do not have many dingy participants and it is probably unfair to race them with larger boats anyway. A second change will be to have at least two shorter races rather than just one long one. That way, if you get "hung up" somewhere (Kathy & Grady!!) you get a chance to recover. I do not think we are

5

quite ready to do a two day event as most regattas do so this will be the compromise. Let me know what you think.

I put in one more Pursuit out of the Harbor House area for Oct 28th. We will see if anyone from BCSA is interested. If not we can do it in our neighborhood.

November is open. I just don't have any ideas right now. Let me know what you are interested in and we can set something up!!

LIFE IN THE 1500'S

The next time you are washing your hands and complain because the water temperature isn't just how you like it, think about how things used to be. Here are some facts about the 1500s:

These are interesting...

Most people got married in June because they took their yearly bath in May and still smelled pretty good by June. However, they were starting to smell, so brides carried a bouquet of flowers to hide the body odor. Hence the custom today of carrying a bouquet when getting married.

Baths consisted of a big tub filled with hot water. The man of the house had the privilege of the nice clean water, then all the other sons and men, then the women and finally the children. Last of all the babies. By then the water was so dirty you could actually lose someone in it. Hence the saying, "Don't throw the baby out with the bath water".

Houses had thatched roofs-thick straw-piled high, with no wood underneath. It was the only place for animals to get warm, so all the cats and other small animals (mice, bugs) lived in the roof. When it rained it became slippery and sometimes the animals would slip and fall off the roof. Hence the saying, "It's raining cats and dogs".

There was nothing to stop things from falling into the house. This posed a real problem in the bedroom where bugs and other droppings could mess up your nice clean bed. Hence, a bed with big posts and a sheet hung over the top afforded some protection. That's how canopy beds came into existence.

The floor was dirt. Only the wealthy had something other than dirt. Hence the saying, "Dirt poor". The wealthy had slate floors that would get slippery in the winter when wet, so they spread thresh (straw) on floor to help keep their footing. As the winter wore on, they added more thresh until, when you opened the door,

6

it would all start slipping outside. A piece of wood was placed in the entranceway. Hence the saying a "threshold".

(Getting quite an education, aren't you?)

In those old days, they cooked in the kitchen with a big kettle that always hung over the fire. Every day they lit the fire and added things to the pot. They ate mostly vegetables and did not get much meat. They would eat the stew for dinner, leaving leftovers in the pot to get cold overnight and then start over the next day. Sometimes stew had food in it that had been there for quite a while. Hence the rhyme, Peas porridge hot, peas porridge cold, peas porridge in the pot nine days old.

Sometimes they could obtain pork, which made them feel quite special. When visitors came over, they would hang up their bacon to show off. It was a sign of wealth that a man could, bring home the bacon. They would cut off a little to share with guests and would all sit around and chew the fat.

Those with money had plates made of pewter. Food with high acid content caused some of the lead to leach onto the food, causing lead poisoning death. This happened most often with tomatoes, so for the next 400 years or so, tomatoes were considered poisonous.

Bread was divided according to status. Workers got the burnt bottom of the loaf, the family got the middle, and guests got the top, or the upper crust.

Lead cups were used to drink ale or whisky. The combination would sometimes knock the imbibers out for a couple of days. Someone walking along the road would take them for dead and prepare them for burial. They were laid out on the kitchen table for a couple of days and the family would gather around and eat and drink and wait and see if they would wake up. Hence the custom of holding a wake.

England is old and small and the local folks started running out of places to bury people. So they would dig up coffins and would take the bones to a bone-house, and reuse the grave. When reopening these coffins, 1 out of 25 coffins were found to have scratch marks on the inside and they realized they had been burying people alive. So they would tie a string on the wrist of the corpse, lead it through the coffin and up through the ground and tie it to a bell. Someone would have to sit out in the graveyard all night (the graveyard shift.) to listen for the bell; thus, someone could be, saved by the bell or was considered a ...dead ringer.

And that's the truth...Now, whoever said History was boring !!!



LGSC WEB SITE!

<http://www.lakeguntersville.com>

Our web site has a new look, links to other sites, the latest activities, and even a 7 day weather forecast; that is Lake Guntersville Sailing Club weather.

So before you pack up the car, check the web site (unless you already live in beautiful Guntersville) to help you plan your sailing adventure.

REMINDER FROM DUANE



2006 MONTHLY SLIP RENT FEES

B DOCK	\$105.00
C DOCK – EVEN #	\$115.00
C DOCK - ODD #	\$130.00

Make your check payable to “The Anchorage” and mail to P.O. Box 900, Guntersville, AL 35976.

A NOTE FROM THE WEB MASTER

Need pictures to post of the web site. Please e-mail to sailor@mindspring.com. Thank you!