

The Binnacle

A newsletter of the

Lake Guntersville Sailing Club



www.lakeguntersvillesailingclub.com

January 2007

Activities at a Glance and the LGSC Race Schedule

January

Sat., January 6:

10 a.m. - LGSC Board Meeting in the LGSC clubhouse. Guntersville Cup Committee will meet after the regular meeting.

January 15:

All articles are due to Marsha Babb for the newsletter. E-mail druids@mindspring.com If you have any story you would like to share about an adventure or an almost adventure, or how you solved a particular problem, or if you need help with a problem; this is the place for information sharing. Just send it to me and I will put you in the line-up. Pictures are nice also, aren't they Keith! Thanks so much.

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS



Winter has set in with freezing temperatures – hope you all have winterized your boats and are ready for it. Your new Board had its first meeting last week and spent most of the time brainstorming possible activities for 2007, and has come up with an aggressive list to work on. Our primary goals are to have fun and become better sailors through educational programs. Comments and volunteers on the following list will be appreciated.

First, our major annual spring activity is the Guntersville Cup, to be held this year on April 21 with Keith Kuhlman and Kathy Bryant as co-chairs. They are currently putting together a Cup Committee, so if you are interested in working with them, just contact one of them and volunteer. Keith is also coordinating the Pursuit Race Series with Brown's Creek and will post the schedule as soon as we have it. If you are interested in helping with the races and joining the Race

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Committee, contact Keith. As any of you know who raced last year, Keith did a great job and now we need to help him do an even better job this year.

On June 23, we will have a Poker Run for all club members, followed by dinner. Each boat will pick up one card at each of five locations, with the boat having the highest hand at dinner being the grand winner. This is not a race, just an opportunity for us to all get out on the lake, sail (or motor) the same course, and have fun. We need volunteers to man the five locations – please contact me if you want to help.

The weekend following the 4th of July will see another Pirates Race and dingy race followed by a cookout (hopefully with entertainment). For August, we will be having a land trip to Cathedral Caverns led by Duane, so we can stay cool in the cave instead of boiling on the lake. On Labor Day weekend we will repeat the popular trip to Goose Pond, with Charlie Rains coordinating and leading the trip.

In addition to all of the above, we plan to repeat the low country shrimp boil, have a PowerPoint presentation on sailing in the British Virgin Islands, sponsor a training session on navigation skills and coordinate a five day trip to Chattanooga. We are still working on possible dates, and whether we can successfully complete some of these activities largely depends on the interest level you show within the club. Let us know what you are thinking and which activities you want to participate in.

It is also critical that we let you know when and where each activity will take place. We will post all info in the Binnacle, along with the Activities at a Glance at the clubhouse and on the restroom doors. Make sure we (Hollis) has your current email (or mailing address if you prefer). Let us know if you have any better ways of notifying all club members and any comments or recommendations on the schedule.

George



A NOTE FROM THE WEB MASTER

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

**2006 Guntersville Christmas Parade of Lights
Sponsored by Signal Point**



Keith & Beverly Kuhlman's Boat



Josh Trimble's Boat



Charlie and Deanna Raines' Boat



Sylvia Potter and Bev Kuhlman suitably muffled up.

Pictures provided by Dick Potter.

FROM THE RACE CHAIRMAN



Racing may be over but if you did not (and not many did) come out for the Christmas Light Parade you missed a good time. Charlie Raines, Josh Trimble and I gussied up our boats with a few lights and made the trek down to Lower Guntersville Light in reasonably cool weather. It really wasn't so bad, especially with a little hot chocolate and whatever other elixir one might have on hand. We were joined

by Dick and Sylvia Potter and almost by Randy and Robin Hall. Randy missed our departure by about 10 boat lengths. Too bad, as I understand he had some rather tasty eggnog to contribute to our warm up brews!! Anyway, it was a nice adventure, all motoring as boats with lights on the halyards don't sail real well. While none of us won a prize (understandably if you saw the other three boats in the under 41 foot class....wow!) but it was fun participating. I hope next year we can get six to ten boats to participate so we can have sailboat domination!!!

Well, let's start talking about the upcoming sailing season. We had a great board meeting and dinner Dec 4th. Lots of good, fun ideas. All we need is people to help make it all happen!!! So don't just sit around and wait for someone else to do something, come to the next meeting, Jan 6th and volunteer to help make our club fun!!

For the racing season I am proposing:

A Guntersville Cup weekend event with two races on Saturday and one on Sunday. All three races will be about 5-6 miles long and last about two hours. I would like to start them in the Signal Point area to both promote more participation from other marinas as well as show off our sport to the town's folks.

A Ladies Race. This can be a fun event especially if a group of ladies take command of the boat. Rules would be that a woman must steer the boat and only one male is allowed on board (with hand cuffs and an emergency only key!!!). Now that is how Deanna and Charlie race anyway so we will make special rules for her (no key)!!

Joint BCSA Pursuit Series. Basically the same as last year with about 5-6 events, capped off with the Great River Race.

LGSC Pursuit Races. We will try having some of our local pursuits start on Sunday at noon or so. Also, end the race at some destination with a lunch raft up.

A Poker Run. This is a real fun event with motoring allowed and no rules. Better have a powerful water cannon to defend yourself. Good August event!!!

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Autumn Challenge. A two race event using the pursuit format. Maybe something less dangerous than darts for the handicap adjustment!!!

Any other ideas please let me know. Better yet, come to the Jan 6th meeting at 10am and present them in person!!!!

I seriously need some help this year to make any of this happen. Clubs are only as good as its members are active. So if you like doing stuff take time to help out. Most of the fun is in the planning anyway.

Keith Kuhlman

HAVE YOUR WINTERIZED YOUR BOAT YET?

LGSC WEB SITE!

<http://www.lakeguntersvillesailingclub.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 Gunter'sville Sailing Club weather.

So before you pack up the car, check the web site (unless you already live in beautiful Gunter'sville) 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, Gunter'sville, AL 35976.