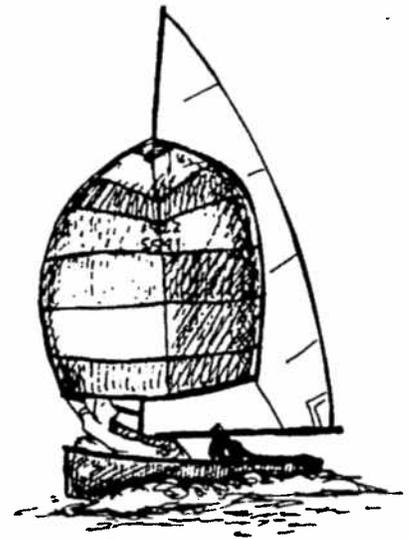


August

Jib Sheet 94

Newsletter of the Rochester Canoe Club
Bayshore Blvd - Irondequoit - NY



Commodore's Comments

It's almost a given that the more things change with the Canoe Club, the more they stay the same. But not always! We faced another year with dragging out the cut up oil drums for cooking when **Joe Kaukeinen** came up with the remarkably rational idea of getting a club gas grill. What a difference, and why didn't someone think of that 15 years ago! Another brilliant suggestion was to post the minutes of the Board of Directors on the Club bulletin board. Now everyone can follow how our thinking and planning has changed and not changed over the years.

The commodore, on assuming office, becomes the temporary caretaker of a treasure trove of past minutes, maps, surveys, litigation papers, a metal box full of deeds, insurance papers, regatta memorabilia and other papers of note. I recently read about 6 or 7 years worth of minutes of the Board of Directors, and was struck by the frequency with which certain issues recur for discussion:

During that time, the question of a "third" boat fleet, or allowing other types of boats to be stored at the club, came up in four separate years. When the windsurfer rage started a few years ago,

many of our members pressed hard for their recognition. The Board always voted down the issues by a rather large margin---favoring the continuation of the two racing fleet format. One of the strongest arguments was the track record of clubs that reluctantly allowed unlimited boat type memberships: The Canandagua Yacht Club being the best example.

Pat Tompkins and I were talking the other day about another situation that keeps recurring: We are a club of people in constant evolution. Many of us older members started when we were much younger; relished the gung-ho spirit of fun, competition and camaraderie that has so characterized our Club. Our kids were a part of that milieu, shared in the same pleasures, grew up and left, usually to get their own boat somewhere else. And, some of the older members wanted to "move up" to larger, more sedate racing or cruising sailboats. Many did. The **Rotes, Bannisters, Geracis, Reynolds, Lassers, and Baileys**, just to name a very few. And always its a sad time for all of us--those that must leave and those that stay, because we have pretty much defined

what our Club wants to be. So the Club itself stays young, and doesn't really change.

Steve Skewes, noted for washing his Sunfish sails from time to time in the Bay, was seen recently with his portable PC at the Club, getting input from club members for an extensive survey of club members' perceptions of their club and club goals. **Steve** will do the survey as a marketing project for his MBA. It will be a very important survey which you probably have received by now and it is important that all members fill it out. If you have lost your copy, call **Steve** or me and we will get you a new one. The survey will play a key role in determining "where the club will go" in strengthening its appeal to both the membership and potential new members.

Frank Colgan
271-1577

From the Vice Commodore

We've had a beautiful summer so far. I'd like to let you know about some of the activities that are coming up.

◇ Ladies! Don't spend your Sunday afternoons cooking for the family. Make a dish to pass and join your fellow club members' families for the pot luck supper. Relax at the club, dabble your feet in the water, or get a volleyball game together. It is a great time to try out new recipes. If it doesn't go over well, you can sneak the serving dish discretely into a bag and no one will know who brought it.

- ◇ Reserve Saturday August 27. We are having a square dance at the club. If you haven't tried it before, do it this once and decide for yourself. It is a great time for beginners and veterans. It's a non-alcohol event. There will be a cookout before for those who want to come early. Members will receive a phone call with more info soon. Fee will be nominal to cover the expense of the caller.
- ◇ The Brown Jug Regatta is on Monday, September 5. The party afterward is at the Newport Yacht Club.
- ◇ We are hosting the Fall Frontier Thistle regatta on Sept. 10 and 11. Volunteers will be needed to pull this party off. There will be a dinner on Saturday night. The more the merrier.
- ◇ Get psyched! September 24. Clam Bake! Help is needed to plan and work on it. It looks like it will include steak for those who don't care for clams. Those who do like them can order the number of dozens they want. More info will follow as the plans are finalized. **KEEP THE DATE OPEN!**
- ◇ Our annual meeting will be on Wednesday, Sept. 28.
- ◇ Our Sunfish Regatta is on Saturday Oct. 1.

Please call me to volunteer your services. Our club members run the activities. Everyone is expected to help with the planned activities.

See you on Sundays for cocktail / appetizer hour and please feel comfortable with staying down for dinner.

Bill Bradburn
342-6059

Sunfish Fleet Captain

Watching the three staff members of our club's Junior Sailing School handle their individual Sunfish is no big deal! All three; **Mike Fortner**, **Doug Kaukeinen**, **Mark Weider** are very talented racing skippers. So what you see is what you might expect. However, put 23 other racing skippers behind them in strong, gusty, shifty winds and their sailing skills become phenomenal! Just ask me. I was one of the 23.

The 26th Annual Sunfish Regatta, held on July 23rd, has now come and gone. A coincidence, perhaps, that there were exactly 26 participants, some from Oswego, Rome, and Olean, coming to enjoy the 6 scheduled races, the orange juice, donuts, and coffee at registration, the noon lunch, the happy hour and awards at late afternoon - all for the \$10 entry fee. Needless to say, lots of RCC goodwill and "PR" was passed around.

Oh yes, the overall winners. **Doug** took top honors, **Mark** was 2nd, **Mike** was 3rd. Guest skippers received the next three finishing places and awards. I wish I could say other Canoe Clubbers "held back" a bit in order to let the guests earn trophies, but we didn't. They sailed well.

Four races were sailed before lunch and after it, two more. The winds came from the west even stronger in the afternoon. A mast was broken on **Joe Kaukeinen's** boat, **Doug's** tiller extension snapped, capsizes were many. In fact, a few skippers elected to give up at noon and race no more under

such windy conditions. Two of them who stayed ashore thought it would be more prudent to just guard the beer cooler - which they did.

One who didn't quit, was **Judy Tompkins**, demonstrating some excellent sailing in addition to her usual charm we've all come to know and respect.

In closing, a word to you owners of the Sunfish which seem to stay on the racks all of the time. It's about time you put them in the water and join the fun. We try for six races every Sunday - sometimes fun sailing Thursday evenings. The "fish" look nicer with sails up than they do upside down on the rack.

Don Van V.
424-4267

Optimist Regatta RCC

Saturday August 6, 1994

8:00 AM to 4:30 PM

Skippers meeting: 9:30 AM

Participants and volunteers call:

Mark Weider at 473-9346

or

Gary Skillman at 271-2925

Jr. Sailors DON'T MISS IT!

