



FOOT, TACK & CLEW

East Coast Sailing Association

P.O. Box 372054 • Satellite Beach, FL 32937-0054

<http://www.ecsasail.com>

BOAT/US number GA81299B

December 2004



THE OFFICIAL LOG OF THE EAST COAST SAILING ASSOCIATION

Board of Governors

Flag Officers *z*

Commodore

David Merchberger 321 – 779 – 0438

Vice Commodore

Joe Coleman 321 – 773 – 3265

Rear Commodore

Chuck Delmater 321 – 783 – 2225

Secretary

Donna Hartley Oyer 321 – 783 – 4458

Treasurer & Past Commodore

Clint Braswell 321 – 779 – 0229

Elected Governors

Wes Whitley 321 – 779 – 9544

Frank McTernan 321 – 452 – 0342

Chip Worster 321 – 773 – 5851

Fleet Captains

Cruising

Bob Goldstein 321 – 751 – 4078

River Racing

Jim Lacy 321 – 728 – 0389

Women's Racing

Sherry Beckett 321 – 779 – 0324

Newsletter Editor

Brenda Merchberger 321 – 779 – 0438

Program Chairman

Tom Schrader 321 – 449 – 4604

Membership Chairman

Brenda Merchberger 321 – 779 – 0438

Rating Chairman

Jim Miller 321 – 777 – 7011

Advertising

Joe Luthman 321 – 631 – 3247

Frank McTernan 321 – 452 – 0342

Hospitality

John & Loretta

Schnitzius 321 – 783 – 1509

Publicity

Open

General Membership Meeting

Wednesday ~ 8 December 2004 ~ 7:00 p.m.

Satellite Beach Recreation Center (565 Cassia Blvd)

Latitude 28° 09' North, Longitude 80° 36' West

December Program

Holiday Potluck & Social

Bring a dish to share & your appetite

2005 Cruising Calendar Planning Meeting
following the Potluck

DECEMBER Calendar of EVENTS

5	ECSA	Fall/Winter Women's #2
5	MYC	Winter Rum Race #3
8	ECSA	December Meeting & Potluck
12	IRYC	Race of Champions
12	MYC	Dinghy Racing
18	ECSA	Holiday Parade Cruise

JANUARY Calendar of EVENTS

8	ECSA	Awards Banquet
15-16	ECSA	Progressive Dinner & Poker Rally
29	ECSA	Frostbite Cruise to Ballard Park

Foot, Tack & Clew is the official newsletter of the East Coast Sailing Association and is mailed to the membership each month or available at <http://www.ecsasail.com>.

The opinions expressed herein are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the East Coast Sailing Association.



THOUGHTS FROM YOUR COMMODORE...

David Merchberger

Another year coming to a close

Each year, as the Holiday season is upon us, time seems to accelerate and speed by even faster than usual. Now that Thanksgiving has passed us by in a blur of turkey and mashed potatoes, we are scurrying about searching for just the right gift for those special people in our lives. In just a matter of a very few weeks, we will be looking back on stacks of discarded wrapping paper and another sink full of dirty dishes after once again eating just a bit more than we should have.

In the midst of all the activity that occurs in the compressed period between Thanksgiving and Christmas, the Board that you will elect at the December General Membership meeting will be hard at work planning the events to occur during 2005 and they need your help!

The 'racers' among us have historically done a fine job of pulling together and sharing the tasks associated with running a successful season of ECSA racing, so I can't pick on you guys this time. However, I would like to go on record right now and declare publicly that I'll be requesting a PHRF handicap for Thirsty Whale and will get that old heavy keel boat out there for some racing. Any other 'traditional' cruisers out there care to join me?

The 'cruisers' however have been a bit less forthcoming in their support of their events. This is not to suggest that folks aren't attending and having a great time, but rather history has shown that it tends to be the same relatively small group of members who consistently step forward to host an event.

There will be a cruise planning meeting at the December General Membership meeting and I encourage all interested members to attend. In the past, cruises have been hosted by a single individual or couple, but I'd like to see some members team up and host cruises together. This will not only serve to ease the burden on any one person, but will also get more members involved. Hosting a cruise is not difficult or time consuming, but it is very rewarding, and like most things done with other people, is a lot of fun. If you are unable to attend the meeting in December, please drop me an email or phone call and let me know that we can count on your support.

(Continued on page 3)



VIEW FROM THE VICE...

by

**VICE COMMODORE
Joe Coleman**

Karen and I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy and safe New Year.

Now that the pleasantries are over, I would like to make a comment about Pinedaville. This isn't a complaint, just an observation. Is it just me or did anyone else notice how many ECSA men use Pinedaville as an occasion to dress in drag?

Joe Luthman took the opportunity to wear Wanda's pink curlers in his hair. Not a bold statement by any means, but enough to cross over that delicate line and ask the question, "Do I look pretty? Even conservative Charlie Mann dressed so that we would think he was a young voluptuous babe, but on closer inspection, it was all superficial.

Chuck Delmater, someone who has obviously been there before, wore his pink one-piece jammies with a silky robe. Now wearing a silk robe might suggest the image of Hugh Hefner at the Playboy Mansion, but those pink jammies screamed of Malibu Beach Barbie.

Then there was Jim Oyer. When Jim came to the Halloween party a few years ago as Miss Afghanistan, he proved that he could not only turn the other cheek, but showed off both of them with pride. The sheer black negligee he wore at Pinedaville this year was also over the top. Like any beauty queen, Jim thanked everyone who helped him with his costume, including his mother, who was at Pinedaville and was still proud of her son.

Now, those of you who know me know that I can't pass up the opportunity to make a fool of myself, but unlike the three other "gentlemen" I mentioned previously, I wore a costume that was very functional and somewhat high tech. First of all, the wig with the rollers and scarf kept the sun off the balding spot on the back on my head. The balloons in the bra were filled with cold water, thus drawing the heat from my body and allowing me to stay cool all afternoon. The pink silky nightie was very thin and allowed the breeze to blow through. The nylons rolled down on my ankles kept the sand off my feet and their rolls kept crabs from crawling up my legs. So you see, it was very prudent for me to wear such a functional outfit.

I think that one thing you can derive from this observation is that "sometimes a guy just like to feel pretty".

(Continued on page 3)



TREASURER'S REPORT

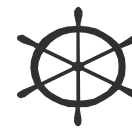
by
Clint Braswell

Thoughts from your Commodore - cont'd...

(Continued from page 2)

Beyond December's meeting, we have the 2004 Awards Banquet and 2005 bus trip to the Miami Boat show coming up fast. Look for information on these and other events elsewhere in this newsletter.

Be safe, and see you on the water!
Dave



Income Statement		Fiscal Year
REVENUE	Nov-04	Sep 04 - Nov 04
Activities Income	120.00	120.00
Membership Dues	1,205.00	5,359.00
Merchandise Income	0.00	0.00
Miscellaneous Income	<u>90.00</u>	<u>144.00</u>
Total Revenue	1,415.00	5,623.00
EXPENSES		
Activities Expense	906.71	1,468.14
Bank Service Charge	-	0.00
Dues & Subscriptions	-	0.00
Insurance	1,551.00	1,551.00
Miscellaneous	-	0.00
Office Supplies	-	0.00
Postage/Delivery	59.20	132.46
Printing/Repro	38.43	75.53
Rent	-	0.00
Sales Tax	<u>-</u>	<u>13</u>
Total Expense	2,555.34	3,227.26
Net Income	(1,140.34)	2,395.74

View from the Vice Commodore - cont'd... *From page 2*

Now on a more serious note, the awards banquet is rapidly approaching and you need to make your reservations as soon as possible. The order form is in this Newsletter and also available at our website, www.ecsasail.com. Please come and join us for a night filled with fun and friendship.

Balance Sheet as of: November 30, 2004

Assets

Checking	7,300.80
Restricted Cash (Lasowska Fund)	942.00
Security Deposit	<u>100.00</u>

Total Assets **8,342.80**

Liabilities & Net Worth

Unrestricted Cash	6,432.86
Retained Earnings	(485.80)
Net Income	<u>2,395.74</u>

Total Net Worth **8,342.80**

On the Sea...

The sea evokes in me infinite thoughts and moods; serenity, turmoil, the beginning of life, the unconquerable end. Majestic, awesome, often cruel but always indescribably beautiful.

- R. Montalban

The sea never changes and its works, for all the talk of men, are wrapped in mystery.

- Joseph Conrad



SECRETARY'S REPORT

By

Donna Hartley Oyer

EAST COAST SAILING ASSOCIATION
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
November 10, 2004

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. The Board of Governors present were Dave Merchberger, Donna Hartley, Clint Braswell, Chuck Delmater, Frank McTernan, Wes Whitley and Chip Worster. Dave introduced the Board, past commodores and welcomed everyone.

OFFICER & COMMITTEE REPORT

- ?????A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the following two applications into membership: Elizabeth Hall and Chuck Noles.
- ?????A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the minutes from the October general membership meeting as published in the November Foot, Tack & Clew (FT&C).
- ?????A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the October Treasurer's report as published in the November FT&C.
- ?????Dave reminded the members that if their membership renewal dues were not paid by October 31st, their names have been removed from the mailing list.
- ?????Dave invited the members to, "Sail a Small Boat Day", on November 14th, from 1:00 – 5:00, at Whitley Bay. Boaters Exchange is sponsoring the event.
- ?????Dave reminded the members that the ECSA Banquet will be held on January 8th at the Holiday Inn in Cocoa Beach. Although the Holiday Inn sustained considerable damage as a result of the hurricanes, the renovation will be completed by the time of the banquet.

REAR COMMODORE'S REPORT CRUISING

- ?????Donna invited everyone to the next upcoming cruise, "Pinedaville", November 19th-21st. This year's theme is a "Pajama Party". The cruise takes place at Scott's Cove on the ICW.
- ?????Joann Jacobs invited the members to her house on December 18th to watch the boat parade on the Grand Canal. The boat parade starts at 6:00 p.m.

RACING

- ?????Sherry Beckett reported that the ECSA River Race Challenge was held on November 6th.
- ?????Sherry also reported that the Melbourne Yacht Club (MYC) held the rescheduled Mermaid Regatta on November 7th.
- ?????Sherry reminded the members that MYC has Rum racing every other Sunday, all year long. Sherry informed the members that MYC also has a Sunfish Regatta scheduled for November 20th and 21st. It is called the "No Frills Regatta".
- ?????Sherry advised the members that the last Women's River race of the year would be held on December 5th.

OLD BUSINESS

- ?????There was no old business noted.

NEW BUSINESS

- ?????Donna from All-Pro attended the meeting to take orders for monogrammed shirts, etc. Donna stated that she was taking orders for shirts, etc. and if members ordered now, their orders would be available for pick-up at the next general membership meeting on December 8th.
- ?????Dave noted that there were newly revised membership applications are now available.
- ?????Sandy Whitley congratulated ECSA volunteers that had previously helped with the SSCA GAM. ECSA was not as involved in the GAM this year because of the conflict with the St. Pete Boat Show. While attending the GAM, Sandy was told by members of SSCA, that they hadn't realized how much work that the ECSA volunteers had done in the past.
- ?????Dave informed the members that the Miami Boat Show is coming up in February. ECSA will again reserve a bus for the trip to Miami. There will be more details available at the next meeting and in the December newsletter.
- ?????The nominating committee recommended the following members for Board of Governor positions: Commodore- Dave Merchberger; Vice-Commodore – Joe Luthman; Rear Commodore – Joe Coleman; Secretary – Phyllis Paradies; Treasurer – Tom Schrader; Elected Governor - Sherry Beckett. Dave thanked the nominating committee for their hard work.
- ?????Dave asked for approval from the membership to renew the club's Director & Officer insurance policy for the upcoming year. A motion was made, seconded and carried to renew the policy.
- ?????Dave also asked for approval to renew the club's Burgee liability policy. If the renewal amount exceeds \$900.00, then Dave will bring it back to the members for an additional vote. A motion was

(Continued on page 6)

East Coast Sailing Association

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2005

**to be held at the
December General Membership Meeting**

The Nominating Committee has developed the following list of recommended candidates for the elective offices to be decided at the December General Membership meeting election.

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>CANDIDATE</u>
COMMODORE	Dave Merchberger
VICE COMMODORE	Joe Luthman
REAR COMMODORE	Joe Coleman
SECRETARY	Phyllis Paradies
TREASURER	Tom Schrader
ELECTED GOVERNOR	Sherry Beckett

Members wishing to make an additional nomination for any of these positions may do so from the floor at the December General Membership Meeting. (Persons nominated from the floor must be present at the meeting to acknowledge their willingness to serve, if elected.)

Persons who volunteered for any of the appointed committee positions will have their names passed on to the appropriate Association Officer for coordination and action.

On behalf of the members of the nominating committee, I want to thank those members who assisted in the nominating process.

Sincerely,

Tom Schrader
Chairman, Nominating Committee

Welcome New Members

Elizabeth Hall
605 Jasmine Drive
Melbourne, FL 32951
321-724-6023
San Juan 23 - *Freedom*

Brian Higley
P.O. Box 1703
Palm City, FL 32991
772-708-8218
Alberg 30 - *Wait-N-Sea*

Kurt & Christine Meyer
6911 Mulberry Ct
Melbourne, FL 32940
321-253-0256

Chuck Nuoles
950 N. Central Ave #6
Oviedo, FL 32765
407-443-3752
Lancer 36 - *Peddler*



CRUISE QUARTERS

Come one...come all To the Holiday Boat Parade

Join us for a front row seat on the Grand Canal to watch this year's Holiday Boat Parade on Saturday, December 18th. We are gathering at Joann Jacob's house - 410 Thrush Drive in North Waterway Estates around 4 p.m. for Social hour and snacks, followed at 5 p.m. for a Potluck dinner. Then we'll take our seats on the lawn (you can bring your chairs if you like) and after sunset, watch the decorated boats parade down the Grand Canal. Please bring your own beverages.

If you would like to enter your boat in the boat parade, you are welcome to tie up on Joann's dock prior to entering the parade. Boats begin getting in position at 5:30 p.m.

If you have any questions, contact Joann at 321-777-3551.

Miami Boat Show Bus Trip Saturday, February 19, 2004

Leave the driving & parking hassles behind!

Cost: \$34.00 per person
Includes: Transportation, admission, breakfast, snacks & beverages
Departs: Rockledge 6:00 a.m.
Melbourne 6:30 a.m.
Arrives Miami: 10:00 a.m.
Departs Miami: 5:30 p.m.

Sign-ups begin at the December General Meeting or send an email to editor@ecsaail.com.

Please make checks payable to ECSA and mail to the ECSA PO Box, attn: Bus Trip.

Full payment due Saturday, January 29, 2005

Questions?: Contact Dave or Brenda Merchberger @ 321-779-0438

Don't miss your seat....the bus sold-out early last year.

4th Annual Lake Shepard Progressive Dinner & Poker Rally 15 - 16 Jan 2005

Make plans now to join us for our 4th Annual Lake Shepard Progressive Dinner and Poker Rally. We will anchor in Lake Shepard and dingy to 4 locations on Saturday and one location Sunday morning. Please BYOB and folding chairs. If you aren't able to join us in the dinghy excursion, please come along in your land cruiser.

Those individuals with last names beginning with A-L, please bring appetizers or finger food to be shared at location #1. Those individuals with last names beginning in M-Z please bring a dessert to share at location #4.

At each location, each represented "boat" will draw a card for a poker hand. At the 4th stop, the winning hand will be announced and the winner will receive a prize.

On Sunday at 8 a.m. we will dingy to location #5 for breakfast.

Lake Shepard is located just south of Tortoise Island Bridge on the east side of the Grand Canal in Satellite Beach. The Saturday activities will end after dark; so don't forget to bring lights for your dinghy.

The specific locations and times will be published in the January FT&C. For further info contact Brenda Merchberger at 779-0438 (home) or 917-3698 (cell).



Secretary's Report - cont'd..... *From page 4*

made, seconded and carried to renew the policy.

With there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m., followed by an impromptu report from Frank McTernan. Frank took a 7 month journey on his boat, *Jasmine*, from Merritt Island to New England and back.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Hartley

Cruising the Caribbean

Fellow ECSA'ers, Dave & Marci Hutson have been cruising the Caribbean for the past several years. Here is an excerpt for one of their informative Caribbean Chronicles:

Mundane Chores in Paradise

Those of you who haven't lived this life might have the impression that all we do is sail around, anchor in a secluded cove by ourselves, and go skinny-dipping before catching our fresh fish supper. Ok, we do that sometimes, but not usually. Much of our time (too much, if you ask me) we spend doing mundane chores like washing clothes, fixing things that break, and buying groceries. For instance, after we got out of the boatyard, we had to turn on everything to see if everything worked. This is always exciting because we never know what will not work.

The first thing that got turned on was me. Marci turned me on and I worked! Whew! What a relief. Next, we turned on all the boat's systems that we couldn't turn on in the yard. The guest toilet squeaked. For those of you who visited us last year, you should remember quite vividly how much fun it was to pump the toilet after doing your morning thing only to get a loud screeching sound every time you pumped. Everyone knew what you were doing. Well, we fixed that. I replaced the entire pump assembly. Now our guests will have peace and quiet. Of course, the electric toilet on our side makes enough noise that it wakes up the people in the boats around us. So be it.

Our next challenge was the water maker. When we left the water maker in July, we pickled it. This means we pumped this nasty, highly-toxic chemical through the thing making it impossible for little bacteria critters to grow inside. When we cranked it up last week, it was obvious that the critters grew anyway. The water smelled like poop. We pumped cleaning solution through the thing for hours. "Cleaning solution" is a clever name for another even nastier chemical than the pickling solution. After we had finished cleaning the thing, we pumped the solution overboard and found that the water tasted good. The cleaning solution did its thing. Of course, all the fish died around the boat but the water maker's working!

We checked out the sails and all the instruments by sailing from Martinique to St Lucia. The sails worked and the GPS worked. I know the GPS

worked because we found St Lucia without a problem.

We are now floating in Rodney Bay, St Lucia. Marci cut my hair this morning. We were going to go to the grocery store this afternoon but a squall came through and dumped enormous quantities of water on our boat. I took a rain shower outside in 30 mph winds. What an experience!

Cap'n Dave and I'm-Not-Showering-in-that-Cold-Rain Marci

We've Signed On for Another Year with BoatU.S.!

The BoatU.S. Cooperating Groups program has proven so popular with members that club officers are renewing our partnership for another year.

BoatU.S. provides a vast range of services, including:

- Members-only discounts and Member Rewards with BoatU.S. and West Marine equipment purchases
- Discounts on fuel, overnight slips, and repairs at more than 750 marinas nationwide
- On-the-water towing, with your choice of service levels – from \$50 per incident (with Membership) up to Unlimited service – provided by the nation's largest towing network
- Access to high-value, low-cost group-rate boat insurance
- Full year subscription to the award-winning BoatU.S. Magazine, as well as the 1000-page BoatU.S. Annual Equipment Catalog
- An effective lobby that fights unfair taxes, fees, and government regulations that single out boat owners

Because of this special arrangement, you can get 50% off the regular annual dues rate of \$19 when you join BoatU.S. – the nation's largest Association of recreational boat owners. Your dues are only \$9.50 for the year! (\$15 for International Members – regularly \$30)

For more information, contact ECSA's Commodore, Dave Merchberger. If you are renewing your BoatU.S. Membership, be sure to mention our Cooperating Group ID number **GA81299B** to get the specially reduced rate. The number is noted on the heading of each month's Foot, Tack, & Clew Newsletter.



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Member's Classifieds

1985 Compac 23', 2' 3" draft; 5 HP Honda
 Roller furling. Great Banana River Boat.
 Call 321-631-3247

ECSA NEWSLETTER AD RATES

SIZE	1MO	3MOS	6MOS	12MOS
1/8 page	10.00	28.50	54.00	90.00
1/4 page	18.00	51.00	90.00	144.00
1/2 page	30.00	84.00	144.00	228.00
Full page	50.00	135.00	240.00	360.00



SPECIAL NOTICE!!! GALA EVENT!!!

ECSA 2004 AWARDS BANQUET

Date: 8 January 2005
Time: 6 - 10 p.m.
Place: Holiday Inn, Cocoa Beach

Agenda: 6 - 7 p.m. Cocktails; cash bar
7 - 8 p.m. Dinner
8 - 10 p.m. Program

Cost: \$20.00 per person

PLEASE MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS EARLY!

Complete the following form and return with payment by December 31, 2004. Make checks payable to East Coast Sailing Association and drop off at the November or December general membership meeting or mail to:

ECSA
P. O. Box 372054
Satellite Beach, FL 32937
Attention: Banquet

2004 ECSA AWARDS BANQUET RESERVATION FORM

Name: _____

Evening Phone Number: _____

Boat Name: _____

Choose one (1) menu option per person and indicate the total number of each for your party in the space provided.

_____ Total Scrumptious Chicken

_____ Total Delicious Beef

_____ Total in your party at \$20.00 each = \$ _____

ECSA 2004 - 2005 Race & Cruise Schedule

Date	Event	Contact
Dec 5	Fall/Winter Women's Race #2	Beckett
Dec 18	Holiday Boat Parade Cruise	Jacobs
Jan 15 -16	Progressive Dinner & Poker Rally	Merchberger
Jan 28	Frostbite Cruise to Ballard Park	Coleman

Stay Tuned for 2005 events to come....



EAST COAST SAILING ASSOCIATION

PO Box 372054

Satellite Beach FL 32937-0054