



FOOT, TACK & CLEW

East Coast Sailing Association

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

<http://www.ecsasail.com>

BOAT/US number GA81299B

February 2006



THE OFFICIAL LOG OF THE EAST COAST SAILING ASSOCIATION

Board of Governors

Flag Officers ☞

Commodore

Donna Oyer 321 - 783 - 4458

Vice Commodore

Joe Coleman 321 - 773 - 3265

Rear Commodore

Joe Luthman 321 - 631 - 3247

Secretary

Pam Vanderveer 321 - 255 - 3854

Treasurer

Tom Schrader 321 - 917 - 6638

Elected Governors

Chip Worster 321 - 773 - 5851

Sherry Beckett 321 - 779 - 3024

Roland Norris 321 - 783 - 9736

Fleet Captains

Cruising

Ron Vanderveer 321 - 255 - 3854

River Racing

Jim Yates 321 - 777 - 2663

Women's Racing

Sherry Beckett 321 - 779 - 0324

Newsletter Editor

Brenda Merchberger 321 - 779 - 0438

Program Chairmen

Bill Jones Johan Neve Wes Whitley

Membership Chairman

Brenda Merchberger 321 - 779 - 0438

Rating Chairman

Jim Miller 321 - 777 - 7011

Advertising

Open

Hospitality

Karen Coleman 321 - 773 - 3265

Legislative Affairs

Jack Snyder 321 - 868 - 3529

General Membership Meeting

Wednesday ~ 8 February 2006 ~ 7:00 p.m.

Satellite Beach Civic Center (565 Cassia Blvd)

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

PROGRAM:

Cruising the Chesapeake Bay

Presented by: Bill & Carla Jones

FEBRUARY Calendar of EVENTS

| | | |
|---------|------|--|
| 4 | ECSA | River Racing Winter Series #2 |
| 5 | MYC | Winter Rum Race |
| 12 | IRYC | Winter Series #3 |
| 12 | MYC | Small Boat Racing |
| 18 | ECSA | Miami Boat Show Bus Trip |
| 19 | ECSA | Spring Women's #2 |
| 19 | TSC | Spring Series #1 |
| 19 | MYC | Spring Rum Race |
| | | <i>Catalina 22 Midwinter's - Sanford March 24 - 26</i> |
| 25 - 26 | ECSA | Mardi Gras Cruise - Cocoa Village |
| 26 | MYC | Small Boat Racing |
| 26 | IRYC | Winter Series #4 |

MARCH Calendar of EVENTS

| | | |
|---------|------|---|
| 4 | ECSA | River Racing Spring Series #1 |
| 5 | MYC | Spring Rum Race |
| 5 | IRYC | Winter Series #5 |
| 8 | ECSA | General Membership Meeting |
| | | <i>Sunfish Masters—Tampa March 10 - 12</i> |
| 11 | ECSA | Spring Women's #3 |
| 12 | MYC | Small Boat Racing |
| 12 | TYC | Spring Series #2 |
| | | <i>Sunfish Midwinters Melbourne March 16 - 19</i> |
| 19 - 20 | ECSA | Melbourne St. Patty's Day Cruise |
| 19 | MYC | Spring Rum Race |
| 26 | MYC | Small Boat Racing |
| 26 | IRYC | Spring Series #1 |

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...

Donna Oyer

When I was asked by the nominating committee to accept the nomination for Commodore for the upcoming year, I was surprised and honored. I don't consider myself an experienced sailor, but I do consider myself a passionate one. I was born in California but my family moved to Baltimore when I was three. There I was raised with my two older brothers until I moved to Florida in 1973. As a child, our family spent many summers on the eastern shore of Maryland. It was during those summers that I fell in love with the sea. I would sit on the shore and watch as the sailboats paraded by and enticed me. During the long, cold and dreary winters, I longed for the smell of the salt air and the warmth of the sun upon my face. As summer approached, it was time again to reach the sandy beaches and watch as the boats made their way along the Chesapeake.

Although Jim and I have only belonged to ECSA for six years, we feel that we are a part of a sailing family. From the very first time that we attended a meeting, we felt welcomed. We jumped right in and got involved. The second year we volunteered for hospitality. The third year Jim was vice commodore and then I volunteered for the secretary position for two years. Each year we have gotten more and more involved. We feel that if you give of yourself, then you shall receive. We have given of ourselves, but have gotten much more in return.

So as I start my first year as Commodore, I ask that you get involved. If you can, attend the meetings and volunteer to host a cruise or offer to crew at the next race. Throw those docks lines on the dock and get your boat out there on the water. It is the perfect time of year to put those sails up and enjoy your boat again. Get involved with your boat; get involved with the club and the rewards will be many.

For this 40th anniversary year, let us all keep this sailing club strong and growing. We need new members with fresh ideas to join in. Even if you have been a member but haven't gotten involved, now is the time. Just think, 40 years ago eight men started this club. Now we have over 200 boats in our membership. This club has evolved because for 40 years people have volunteered their time. Volunteer your time and keep us going strong.

Happy Sails to You,
Donna



VIEW FROM THE VICE...

by

**VICE COMMODORE
Joe Coleman**

Welcome to the fortieth year of sailing and racing with the ECSA. I have been on the board, in some position, for quite a few years now, and every year at this time I feel the same excitement about the upcoming year. I am sure that many others who are active with the club feel the same way. A new board, a new year of cruising, a new year of racing, and as always, a new year of meeting and welcoming new members – these are all things to look forward to. Every time a new Commodore takes over, he or she brings new ideas for making the club even better for its members. I'm sure Donna Oyer will do the same and I look forward to working with her and the rest of the board throughout the year.

If you did not attend the annual awards banquet, you may not know about the change in the presentation of the annual awards. Instead of giving the large plaques to the winners to bring home, we awarded them "keeper" trophies. The actual trophies will be displayed all year in a new case at the David R. Schechter (DRS) Recreation Center in Satellite Beach. That way, people will be able to see who the award winners are and it will give the ECSA some more exposure. I am drawing up some plans for the awards case now. If there are any cabinet builders out there that could build one, please let me know. If not we will have to contract to have one made locally. Hopefully it won't be long before we invite you to visit the DRS center to see it.

Now onto a totally different subject: how many cruisers are going to race this year? Dave Merchberger has already proven himself by entering Thirsty Whale last year. I talked about it then, but never did get out there. Now I will make this public, so I can't back out, and say that Alibi will sign up for the Spring racing series. Is this deja vu? I have my abnormal crew of Larry, Moe and Curly ready to go. It would be nice to see a few more cruisers out there just to have some fun. Lets make this a record year.





SECRETARY'S REPORT

By

Phyllis Paradies

EAST COAST SAILING ASSOCIATION AWARDS BANQUET & GENERAL MEETING January 7, 2006

The annual Awards Banquet and January meeting was held at the Holiday Inn, Cocoa Beach, FL on Saturday, January 7, 2006. Following the social hour, Commodore Dave Merchberger called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. Board members present were: Dave Merchberger, Joe Luthman, Joe Coleman, Phyllis Paradies, Tom Schrader, Wes Whitley, Chip Worster, and Sherry Beckett.

Dave welcomed members and guests, introduced Board members, fleet captains, committee chairmen and past commodores.

Dave recognized and thanked Life Member, Dottie Hardenstein for her service of many years and presented her with a bouquet of flowers.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the application for membership received from John Rambold.

A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the minutes of the December meeting as published in the January Foot, Tack, & Clew (FT&C).

A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the Treasurer's Report for December as published in the January FT&C.

Dave said there would be a joint meeting of the outgoing and incoming Boards the second Wednesday in January at the Satellite Beach Civic Center.

The meeting was temporarily adjourned for Dinner.

Following dinner, Commodore Dave Merchberger called on Joe Coleman to present his "special" awards. Joe also mentioned that the club is celebrating its 40th Anniversary this year. ECSA began in Feb. 1966, and its original name was East Coast Cruising Association. In 1993, the name was changed to East Coast Sailing Association to describe it more accurately. Joe said that we have 11 commodores who are still active and of those 11, five

of them have been commodore at least twice.

Jim Yates, Racing Captain presented the racing awards.

Sherry Beckett, Women's Racing Captain, presented awards to the women racers.

Ron Vanderveer, Cruising Captain presented the cruising awards.

Dave thanked the outgoing Board for their work this past year and presented them with gift vouchers to be honored at the February general meeting. He said he has enjoyed his two years as commodore and will continue to work with the club in other areas as well as supporting the new commodore.

The 2006 Board was introduced to the membership. Commodore, Donna Hartley Oyer, Vice Commodore, Joe Coleman, Rear Commodore, Joe Luthman, Secretary, Pam Vanderveer, and Treasurer, Tom Schrader. Elected Board of Governors are: Chip Worster, Sherry Beckett, and Roland Norris. Wes Whitley has completed his three-year term.

Dave announced the 2006 Fleet Captains. They are: Ron Vanderveer, Cruising Captain, Jim Yates, River Racing Captain, and Sherry Beckett, Women's Racing Captain.

Newsletter Editor for 2006 is Brenda Merchberger.

Committee Chairmen for 2006 are: Programs, Johan Neve, Bill Jones, and Wes Whitley, Membership, Brenda Merchberger, Hospitality, Karen Coleman, Rating, Jim Miller, Advertising, Open, Sunshine Fund, Louise Worster and Legislative Affairs, Jack Snyder

After the raffle gifts were distributed, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Phyllis Paradies





TREASURER'S REPORT

by
Tom Schrader

| | Income Statement | Fiscal YTD |
|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| | Jan-06 | Sep 05 - Jan 06 |
| REVENUE | | |
| Activities Income | 1,532.00 | 3,233.00 |
| Membership Dues | 145.00 | 5,970.00 |
| Merchandise Income | 20.00 | 756.00 |
| Miscellaneous Income | 378.50 | 378.50 |
| Miscellaneous Income | - | <u>93.00</u> |
| Total Revenue | 2,075.50 | 10,430.50 |
| EXPENSES | | |
| Activities Expense | 2,461.33 | 4,829.40 |
| Bank Service Charge | - | - |
| Dues & Subscriptions | 61.25 | 61.25 |
| Insurance | - | 1,551.00 |
| Miscellaneous | 354.17 | 747.49 |
| Office Supplies | - | - |
| Postage/Delivery | 55.02 | 348.80 |
| Printing/Repro | 37.10 | 571.82 |
| Rent | - | 127.20 |
| Sales Tax | - | 45.51 |
| Sunshine Fund | - | <u>131.58</u> |
| Total Expense | 2,968.87 | 8,414.05 |
| Net Income | (893.37) | 2,016.45 |

Balance Sheet as of January 31, 2006

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Assets | |
| Checking | 7,744.56 |
| Restricted Cash (Lasowska Fund) | 942.00 |
| Security Deposit | <u>100.00</u> |
| Total Assets | 8,786.56 |
| Liabilities & Net Worth | |
| Unrestricted Cash | 6,432.86 |
| Retained Earnings | 337.25 |
| Net Income | <u>2,016.45</u> |
| Total Net Worth | 8,786.56 |



Welcome New Member

John Rambold & Corinne Conger
450 Carriage Rd
Satellite Beach, FL 32937
321-777-9497
Whitby 42 Cee-JZ

Joe & Sherry Kern
520 Richmond St
Orlando, FL 32806
407-843-8189
Catalina 34 MKII *Jenny Jewel*



Hospitality

Volunteers to bring goodies for our February General Membership Meeting are:

? **John & Loretta Schnitzius**
? **Kay Sparrow**

Thank you!



Bareboat Sailor's Delight!! **SV Cruzan Rhumb!!**

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-
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CRUISE QUARTERS

Mardi Gras 2006 February 25 - 26th



Join us on Saturday, February 25th for ECSA's 6th Annual Mardi Gras cruise and Cocoa Village's 15th Annual New Orleans Street Party. There is live music on several stages. Food, drinks, Novelties and a Street Party complete with tons and tons of beads, dubloons and prizes for all.

For those arriving by boat, we will anchor on the SW side of State Road 520, south of the power lines. If you prefer to stay in a marina, marina slips may be available at Whitley Marine. Please make any marina reservations on your own.

Food & beverages are available within Cocoa Village during the evening. However, a large group usually walks over to a nearby Mexican restaurant to fill up on tortilla chips and Mexican fare prior to the parade/street party. We will gather by the east entrance (directly across from the boat ramp) at 6:00 p.m. After dinner on your own or with the group, we will try to gather our group together for the parade, approximately 30 minutes (or more) before the parade starts (which I believe is 9:00 p.m.). We'll look for you near the courtyard/gazebo area.

Tickets are required for the event and discount tickets are available prior to event. Please sign up either at the February General Membership Meeting or send an e-mail to ip35@ecsa.com and we will purchase advances tickets for you. Tickets at the gate are \$12 and advanced tickets will be either \$8 per person (these are last year's prices - we are awaiting info on any changes for this year).

The following morning, boaters are invited to join in a potluck breakfast at the Cocoa Village park at 0800 prior to sailing to our home ports. Dave & Brenda Merchberger are hosting the event. Please contact them with any questions. Their home number is 321-779-0438 and Dave will have his cell phone with him the day of the even: 321-394-1297.

Remember: No "pre" beading allowed!

Miami Boat Show Bus Trip Saturday, February 18, 2006

For those joining us on our annual trek to the Miami Boat Show, the departure times are as follows:

6:00 a.m. Harbortown Marina
Merritt Island—off of SR 528

6:30 a.m. Osler Medical Building
930 S. Harbor City Blvd (US 1)
Just north of Nasa Blvd



Member's Classifieds

FOR SAIL: (oops) **SALE:** O'Day 27', fast, cruising equipped 1977 sloop with an established club racing record, Main, Jib & Genoa, Atomic 4 w/ all service manuals and installed fresh water flush, large water tank, pressure water in galley & head, Auto pilot, Bimini, and more. Listed for \$7,500 offers starting at \$7,000 for ECSA member. Call Jack Findlater at 321-259-9872. Already purchased replacement boat so very motivated to sell.

WANTED: 10' to 16' Rigid Inflatable Dinghy in good condition. Call Jim Boyd at 321-259-8829 or Pat Phillips at 321-508-1933.

FOR SALE: 1986 30' Catalina. Too many options to list! Two boat owner motivated to sell. Asking price \$28,000 or make offer. Please contact Johan at 321-784-1513.

FOR SALE: Hunter 27', 1982. Features include wheel steering, Yanmar diesel, roller furling jib, new main sail, new standing rigging, large bimini top, swim ladder, cockpit table, custom teak bowsprit, sleeps 5, pressurized water, 8' fiberglass dinghy, and much more! This is a very well maintained boat and ready to cruise or race -- must see! \$11,500. Call Pam 321-432-0559.

Place your sailing classified ad here...
Just contact the Newsletter Editor at 321-779-0438 or via e-mail to bmerch@cfl.rr.com.

Meet your Commodore - Donna Hartley Oyer

This is Donna's first year serving as commodore. Donna and her husband Jim joined ECSA six years ago and have both been very involved in the club. Donna served two years as secretary and Jim one year as vice commodore. They have three children and one granddaughter. They bought their beloved "Pelican" in St. Pete six years ago and sailed her home via the Okeechobee waterway. They enjoy coastal cruising and have made two failed attempts to cross to the Bahamas. Their long term plan is to purchase a larger boat and cruise the Bahamas and the Caribbean. As a child Donna was raised in Baltimore and spent summers at the Eastern shore. Donna moved to Florida 33 yrs ago. Donna's love of the sea started early in life and continues to be her passion. Both Jim and Donna are both scuba divers and have enjoyed many trips to Mexico. Donna has a true love for sailing, she would rather be on her boat than anywhere else. You won't find her in the galley or in the cabin, underway you can almost always find her behind the helm. Donna's plan for this special anniversary year is to continue to promote sailing in every aspect and to encourage involvement in the club.

Donna is known for her infamous "Bahama Donna's" a rum drink that has been served at many a Pinedaville and also pops up from time to time at other ECSA events. By request, here is her recipe:

- 1 1.75L Coconut Rum
- 1 1.75L Vodka
- 1 64 oz Pineapple/Mango Juice
- 1 64 oz Cranberry/Apple or Cranberry/
Raspberry Juice
- 1 64 oz Orange Juice

Mix all above ingredients in large container. Add grenadine until it "looks pretty". Serve over ice.

Editor's Note: I have used 1/2 of the Vodka quantity and it still is a potent beverage!

Sea Turtle Wins 2006 Ft. Lauderdale to Key West Race (PHRF)

Jim Miller and crew on Sea Turtle won overall corrected time (and class) in the Ft. Lauderdale to Key West Race this year.

Some boats were also scored using the new IRC rules. Not all boats were scored this way because it requires a special measurement process to get an IRC rating. Sea Turtle placed second among the boats scored using IRC.

PHRF Results: <http://www.keywestrace.org/pdf/2006results-phrf.pdf>

IRC Results: <http://www.keywestrace.org/pdf/2006results-irc.pdf>

2006 Annual ECSA Directory

Our annual Directory is here! Please join us at the February General Membership Meeting to pick up your directory.



Fellow ECSA'ers Dave & Marci Hutson have been cruising the Caribbean for the last three years and delight us with their experiences from time to time. Here is an excerpt from a recent edition....

Sucker Hole

(A Sucker Hole is a meteorological phenomenon. When the weather is crappy but you really, really want to get away, you look for a break in the weather. When you see a break, you go for it only to realize that the break is a sucker hole - a temporary break in the weather that allows you to get out to sea only to find that the crappy weather is still there. The crappy weather crashes in when you least expect it. We know better than to be seduced by a sucker hole ... or maybe not.

The weather forecast was for a 48 hour window when the winds would subside enough to leave the protection of the lagoon and venture out to sea. We desperately needed to scrub the barnacles off the bottom and we needed to check out the engines, instruments, etc. We decided to leave the lagoon on Friday through the Dutch bridge. That would give us an hour of engine runtime and sail time to get to Marigot on the French side. Should the weather get crappy while we were in Marigot bay, we could zip through the French bridge and be back in our secure anchorage in short order.

The weather was magnificent. We motored through the Dutch bridge without difficulty. Well, the megayacht behind us wanted us to give way but I told him to pound sand and headed out ahead of him. We motorsailed to Marigot, an hour away, and dropped the hook. We had a light lunch and an after-lunch nap. After my nap, I donned my snorkel gear and went in to scrub the bottom. Marci remained in the cabin morphing into Trixie. I emerged from doing battle with the barnacles only to find my sweetie scraping the fur off her legs. "It's been a while," she admitted. She was hot in her red bikini. I was not hot in my black body suit with the little critters crawling all over from the bottom scrubbing. She disappeared into the salon while I de-crittered myself by dousing the suit and me in disinfectant.

We did our usual afternoon nap. This time, we were both tired from scraping the barnacles (me)

and scraping the fur (Marci).

We emerged from our nap and prepared a marvelous dinner of Venezuelan pork chops and grilled okra. It was the best. At Cruiser's Midnight (8:00 pm) we sacked out.

At 11:30 pm the wind machine started. As if by magic, the winds went from 5 knots to 25 knots. The seas went from 2 feet to 10 feet. The wind genny overheated and had to be turned off. We were bouncing like a cork in a bathtub full of one year olds. I told Marci we could not move until the morning when the bridges opened. We held on to each other as the boat pitched and bounced all night. We had been suckered into a sucker hole.

At first light we got up and surveyed the area. The channel to the French bridge, only 100 yards away, was impossible to enter. There were breaking waves in the channel. We would have to sail around to the more-protected Dutch bridge. We got the anchor up with a little difficulty and motorsailed back to the Dutch bridge. The seas were 10-12 feet but we were going downwind, so they didn't seem so big. We arrived in Simpson Bay at the Dutch bridge an hour before it was to open. We anchored and cleaned up the mess that the bouncing passage had caused. When the bridge opened, we were there and went through without a hitch. Well, Marci became her Nazi personality and told me what I was doing wrong as I went through the bridge. Despite her help we emerged from the bridge without a scratch to the boat.

We're now back in the lagoon near our old anchoring area. The winds are howling but the lagoon is calm. Marci is back to being Trixie and I'm happy.

The Sucker Hole suckered us in but didn't defeat us. We accomplished what we intended to do and that is to scrub the bottom and exercise the boat's systems. We got some unexpected experience in heavy-weather sailing. That was good in it's on way.

We're stuck here in the lagoon - again - waiting for the winds to calm. The winds have been excessive for four weeks straight. This is a new record. We'll make do. Where else can you go to the grocery store and find US, French, and Dutch foods in one place. I'm in heaven!

Capn Dave and Blowy Marci

ECSA 2006 Race & Cruise Schedule

| Date | Event | Contact |
|-------------|--|-------------|
| Feb 4 | River Race Winter Series #2 | Yates |
| Feb 18 | Miami Boat Show Bus Trip | Merchberger |
| Feb 19 | Spring Women's Race #2 | Beckett |
| Feb 25 - 26 | Cruise to Cocoa Village for Mardi Gras | Merchberger |
| Mar 4 | River Race Spring Series #1 | Yates |
| Mar 11 | Spring Women's Race #3 | Beckett |
| Mar 19 - 20 | St. Patty's Cruise to Downtown Melbourne | Paradies |

Check out <http://www.sail-race.com/ecsa>
for the most up-to-date information on
the ECSA race schedule & race winners.



EAST COAST SAILING ASSOCIATION

PO Box 372054

Satellite Beach FL 32937-0054