

OYC

N e w s l e t t e r



COMMODORE SARA'S COMMENTS

Commodore Sara Butler

Wake the neighbors, alert the kids.....

There is a new “Muddy Paws” getting ready to be launched on Lake Norman.

After all kinds of internet searches, driving, looking, inspecting, and being amazed at the wonders of photo shop, I have made a decision, and bought a boat. No, it is not one of those hot new J-70s, although I would not have turned one down, but the budget would just not allow it. The new “Muddy Paws” is a long in the tooth, and much-neglected Impulse 21. She was designed as a single-hander so she has a self-tacking jib, and a symmetrical spinnaker that retrieves down a chute like the Flying Dutchman, and all of her control lines come up through a console in the center of the cockpit. I am very anxious to get her out on the water, but first things first....

The boys and I have spent several weekends and lots of elbow grease (and a bit of help from Tim) getting her back to as close to her original condition as we can. I think we have sanded twenty-five coats of paint off of her bottom, and found every color of the spectrum on her keel. Every piece of dry rotted, mold ridden rigging has been replaced, and a new jib is being cut. The plan is to have her in the water, and race worthy for the first race of the Wednesday Night Series, so be on the lookout for a beautiful, sleek, red boat with a disproportional small head sail.



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VICE COMMODORE Bill's REPORT

BIM, BAM, BOOM! Here we are everyone. Smack dab in the midst of competitive keelboat racing on Lake Norman for 2012.

Vice Commodore Bill Hartwell

Big time sailing regattas on the horizon sponsored by Outrigger Yacht Club between now and May 5, 2012 include the West Marine WNS, the Pursuit of Sailing Regatta and the Top Gun. As shown on the OYC Bulletin Board on the right hand side, the West Marine WNS, the Pursuit of Sailing and the Top Gun NOR's are posted and available. I hope you will take advantage of the opportunity to register for all three of these keelboat events right away.

BIM - The most popular keelboat regatta on Lake Norman, the West Marine Wednesday Night Series, starts on April 18th and continues for 18 consecutive weeks into August. What is really amazing is that it only costs \$65.00 and you can register with your credit card online. Trophies are awarded for Spin and Non-Spin divisions as well as cruising.

Lots of fun following each race at Big Al's.

BAM - The Pursuit of Sailing, a big Lake Norman favorite, is designed with starts predicated on the rating of each boat. Boats with the highest handicap start first and boats with the lowest handicap start last. If all boats are perfectly handicapped and all skippers and crew sail perfect races, everyone will finish at the same time.

So far, this has never happened.

The Pursuit Regatta is sailed over the April 28-29 weekend, so we get three shots at trying to sail the perfect race for each division.

It is key that you have your registration in at least 24 hours prior to the start of the race, so that Rick Rowan knows who is in the race and has time to set each boat's start time in accordance with a very complex mathematical formula

As if the sailing was not fun enough, we follow with awards for each division and the best fish fry dinner anywhere on the Lake for only \$10.00 per person.



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REAR COMMODORE Wade's REPORT

Rear Commodore Wade Miller

Its been a great spring and what better way to get the year started off than with the Frogmore Stew! Life of Riley skipper Doug Riley is not only confident one the helm but also talented with the ladle. Doug whipped up quite a nice brew of shrimp, corn, sausage and potatoes for about 30 members at this years stew. It was a fun day for all especially after a loooonnnng day on the water for some of us during the 150 bridge race / crawl.



Personally I am looking forward to the Wednesday night series. This will be only my second year as part of the series and I am hooked on it. I find that after a nice weekend rather than fretting a long work week, I have the Wednesday night race to look forward to and that helps break up my week. I am sure it is going to be another great year out there.

There is nothing - absolutely nothing - half so much worth doing as simply messing about in boats.

~~-- Water Rat, Kenneth Grahame, The Wind in the Willows~~

Fair Winds,
Wade Miller

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Photos from OYC Sailing



SAILING

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With all of this warm weather, I know that I am not the only one looking to get the sailing season started. Thanks to Doug Riley, the Wednesday Night Series Race Chairman, we are about to do just that. The first race is April 18th, and it will be here before you know it. I am anxious to see you all out there.

Sara Butler

Continued from page 1 Bill's Report

And finally BOOM! The Top Gun race on May 5, 2012. This unique race is where the registrant (the only person on board while racing) races against other single-handed sailed keelboats.

Hence, the Top Gun. The winner is the Champ, the Best of Lake Norman for a whole year.

Bill Hartwell