

The Jib Sheet

August 2008

A publication of the Watauga Lake Sailing Club – Founded 1979

Commodore

Wayne Catoe

Vice Commodore

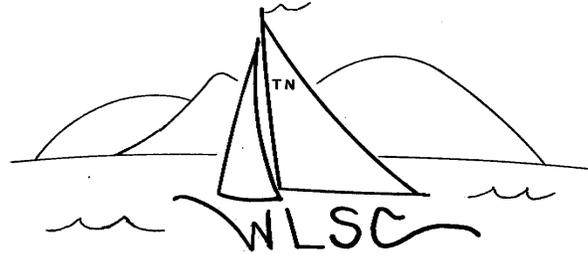
Skip Green

Race Captain

James Little

Secretary

Robert Banks



Treasurer

Mark Galloway

Cruise Captains

Bill Murdoch

Jeff Arnfield

Member at Large

Dave Bryson

Web site: <http://wlsc.lizards.net>

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First Fall Race Sails Sat., August 30 (Labor Day Weekend)

The first race of the fall PHRF series will be Saturday, August 30. As with all PHRF events this fall, skippers' meetings are at 1300 (1:00 p.m.), on the sail dock, with the 5-minute warning at 1410 (2:10 p.m.), race underway at 1415 (2:15 p.m.). The race sequence is being changed from 10 to 5 minutes and we will have a practice start beginning at 1400 (2:00 p.m.)

Followed by...

Annual Fish Fry and Overnight Raft-up Sat., August 30

Our traditional on-the-dock fish fry will be served to all comers following the first fall race. Crispy fried fish, Captain Bill's golden fried potatoes and tangy cole slaw will highlight the menu, but if members elect to bring a salad, side dish or desert, it wouldn't go unappreciated. A few soft and not-so-soft beverages will be available, but if you have a monumental thirst, it might be a good idea to bring a few extra for your crew. We're planning on providing food for about 40 hungry sailors (our usual attendance at this event), but if you intend on bringing a crowd, let the Murdochs know at wsmurdoch@aol.com.

As a component of the WLSC Economic Stimulus Package of 2008, costs for this event will be limited to \$3.00 per diner.

After the fish fry, we'll degrease, cast off the dock lines, and sail away for an overnighter at a nearby anchorage.

New Summer Fun Races a Smashing Success

In its first year ever, the WLSC recently completed a four-race summer fun-race series, and from all indications, the new summer races have been an unqualified success.

In years past, the sailing club went into summer doldrums following the final spring race due to the fluky or nonexistent wind and prevalent afternoon thunderstorms that typify mid-summer weather patterns on Watauga.

Long-time sailors, however, have long known that early on summer mornings, by about 8 a.m., a steady wind appears from the east, generated by convection currents produced by the slow warming of dense mountain land masses reacting with the more rapid warming of the water surface. As the warmer air rises above the lake, the cooler, more dense air slides down the ridges, producing a steady, predictable wind that generally averages between 7-15 knots – a perfect racing wind! By the time the temperatures equalize – around 11 a.m. – the wind virtually disappears and it's back to the dock for swimming and socializing. In a coastal area, this would be called a "land breeze," and it works the same way on Watauga Lake.

Though not the first to recognize this phenomenon, Race Captain James Little has been the first to play it to advantage in what has been an exciting and fun-filled summer race series. In each of the four summer races, we had anywhere from 10-15 boats racing round the buoys. Not bad, when one considers that folks planning to race by 8 a.m. had to leave home in sufficient time to arrive and be ready to race before most folks had had their morning coffee. An additional social benefit was that many racers chose to spend the night aboard Friday night, providing yet another opportunity for fellowship and camaraderie. Thanks and congratulations to all those who helped make the summer race series a success, and special thanks for the foresight and extra effort provided by Race Captain Little in establishing a new tradition that is sure to be a crowd pleaser for years to come.

Bathhouse Project Continues on Track

Anyone who has ventured to the sail dock this summer has undoubtedly remarked on the construction project on the west side of the ramp. The brainchild of Commodore Wayne Catoe, the new bathhouse project is well under way and should be sheltering those possessed of a need for regular and convenient hygiene in the near future.

Designed by John Middaugh and Kevin Donovan, and largely constructed with volunteer labor from the WLSC, the new bathhouse has been a cooperative project of Watauga Lakeshore Marina – who provided the funds and initial site preparation – and members of the Watauga Lake Sailing Club. Although the plumbing has been mostly completed, the block laid, concrete poured and framing well underway, lots of work remains to be done before the first “flush” of victory is realized.

Work projects are generally scheduled Wednesdays and Saturdays, so don't be strangers. Regular reminders are posted on the club website announcing work days, but if you have questions or wish to volunteer, shoot Commodore Wayne an e-mail or give him a telephone call. Relief is just a few rafters away!

Commodore Wayne's phone: (828)260-2666 or e-mail: wbcatoe@aol.com

Membership

Our sailing club has presently topped 80 family memberships! If you haven't paid your 2008 dues, please mail or hand-deliver your \$15 dues to Treasurer, Mark Galloway. **Welcome to our new members!**

New Rosters Included in September Jib Sheet

New club rosters will be included with the late September Jib Sheet. Due to confidentiality issues, rosters will not be included with e-mailed newsletters. E-mail Jib Sheet recipients will receive rosters by snail mail.

New Launchings

Congratulations to new grandparents Bill and Adair Murdoch, who have worked diligently in the past few months promoting sustainable population growth. Congratulations to Julia (Murdoch) and Josh Sell on the birth of Isabella, June 13; and on the recent arrival of Eli Speight Zangri, August 22. Proud parents are Ann (Murdoch) and Michael Zangri. Finally, after two generations, Bill has a little boy to play with.

Crossing the Bar

Sadly, we lost former WLSC Commodore Mike Evans in July, following his courageous battle with pancreatic cancer. Mike always had a friendly remark and lent a willing hand to any sailor who needed it. He was a true gentleman and a real asset to the sailing club during his tenure as commodore. He will be missed...

Jib Sheet Classifieds

1978 Ranger 22: Two mainsails; three headsails plus a spinnaker; new bottom paint; hull in very good condition; four-stroke, 4 HP Tohatsu kicker. Easy-Load trailer (full trailer weight w/ boat less than 3,000 lb.); boat currently stowed on trailer. Asking \$3,000.00, but everything is negotiable. Sam Howie: (423) 727-3016 or <mailto:swhowie@earthlink.net>

1984 Catalina 25: Swing-keel sloop; main and furling genoa; dodger and bimini; Suzuki 15 HP electric-start kicker; newer (2005) Magic Tilt dual-axle trailer w/ electric brakes. Slip E-78, Watauga Lakeshore Marina. \$13,000.00. Jeff Morrison: (828)674-3149 or <mailto:jeffymorrison@aol.com>

Catalina 25, “California Sun”, Swing Keel, Mercury 15 HP motor, Trailer. Contact Ed Lockett - 423-915-0572 or loketts@embarqmail.com

Ratty's Boat Works: Restoration, repair, renovation by Lowell “Ratty” Shipe. Fiberglass work, wood construction, brightwork, custom joinery. Experience with sail, power or oared vessels. Complete woodworking and fiberglass shop. (336) 385-1498 or <mailto:shipe@skybest.com>

Jib Sheet Classifieds are available **free-of-charge** to current members. Advertising costs for non-members are \$25.00 per ad, per issue (exactly the cost of a new member's first-year dues). If you want an ad to continue in subsequent issues of the newsletter, please contact Robert Banks, secretary WLSC: <mailto:robertb@btes.tv> . An e-mail notice will be sent prior to publication of each new issue.



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