



Konza Sailor

Official Newsletter of the Blue Valley Yacht Club

Founded 1963

Post Office Box 961, Manhattan, Kansas 66505

<http://www.bluevalleyyachtclub.org/>

Volume 2003 Issue 3

Konza Sailor

May 2003

Commodore's Message

By Ken Hays, Commodore

Wow, what a difference a winter can make. We have a new shelter that is twice the size of the old one. The jetty has been extended with a ramp, and electricity in the form of an electric start generator and underground wiring has been installed, and for those of you that cannot find the porta-potty, it was hidden between the Yacht Club shed and the KSU Shed. With all the changes, members that have not been to the club since last fall will barely recognize the place.

actually rising. In the last few weeks the cove has gone from a forest of stumps to at least looking like the cove we are accustomed to. So lets get some more boats on the water and have a great sailing season.

Ken Hays
Commodore

As, a side note; Henry Otto has asked that I mention the Joehnk memorial fund. At this time the scouts have decided to place a flagpole on the Yacht club property in memory of John Joehnk. This flagpole will be of naval design with a gaff and yardarms. This project is being



New Shelter, April 26, 2003

To go with these improvements Sean and Catherine the Social and Race directors have many events planned for this sailing season. They include the spring race series that will be starting very soon and Sean has the 4th of July and Pig roast activities. I also know that Catherine is still looking for some volunteers to help out with these races, so give here a call if you can help. I hope everyone can attend these events and meet your fellow sailors.

NOW TO THE IMPORTANT sailing stuff, the lake is

funded wholly through donations, so if you would like to help please contact Henry Otto or myself, the more that is donated the nicer the flagpole will be. Henry has stated that at this time the majority of contributions have come from non-Yacht club members so hopefully we can do our part also.

Thanks
Ken

Board of Directors

Commodore	Ken Hays 539-2374
Vice Commodore	Tom Manney 537-0624
Rear Commodore	Wayne Martin 785-468-3541
Treasurer	Bob Mullen 539-4759
Secretary	Bart Bartholomew 537-0144
Racing Chairman	Catherine Wisian 537-4914
Social Chairperson	Sean Kalic 539-7945

Newsletter Editor

Bart Bartholomew
3616 Cottonwood Circle
Manhattan, KS 66503

Telephone: 785-537-0144
Email: bart@bartholomew.com

Unless carrying a byline or some form of credit to borrowed sources, all items in this newsletter are by the editor and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Club or the Board of Directors. All photos in the bulletin are by the editor, unless otherwise identified.

All members of the Club are encouraged to submit articles for inclusion to the newsletter.

2003 Race Program

by Catherine Wisian, Racing Director

Racing Season is upon us yet again and many of us are doggedly fixing and maintaining our boats in preparation for the upcoming races.

Continuing in the tradition started by Ken Conrow last season, I am requesting help to run the races so that everyone has an opportunity to enjoy racing during the season. Many people have already signed up to help run the races over the summer but there are still many dates available.

I have decided that in order to make helping run the races more worthwhile I will award points to whomever runs the race and their helpers (if applicable). Although this point system has not been finalized it will most likely be that race committee will get the same number of points as they would have if they had raced but didn't finish. I.e. if 4 people race, the person running the race would get 5 points and everyone who doesn't race will receive 6 points. I have decided this would be the fairest way to do this with the least amount of complications.

The dates of the races and the names of who's working them are listed below at

<http://www.ksu.edu/sailingclub/raceschedule.html>

Thanks for everyone's help on this.

2003 Race Schedule

May

Sunday, May 4 Catherine Wisian

Sunday, May 11

Sunday, May 18 Bob Mullen

Saturday, May 24:

Scott Liebler Memorial Long Distance Race

June

Sunday, June 1 Tom Manney

Sunday, June 8 Bart Bartholomew

Sunday, June 15 Carl Hinrichs

July

Sunday, July 13

August

Saturday, August 30 Catherine Wisian

Long Distance Race

September

Sunday, September 7

Sunday, September 21

October

Sunday, October 5 Marty & Harriet Ottenheimer

Sunday, October 19

November

Sunday, November 2

Sunday, November 16

Memorial Trophies

By Catherine Wissian, Race Director

Have you ever wondered where our memorial trophies got their names? I know I have and hopefully I can put to rest some of the queries you no doubt have had.

I'll begin with the Memorial Day long distance race, which is referred to as the Scott Liebler Memorial Race. As many of you know, the Liebler's were one of the founding families not to mention that Al Liebler was the first Commodore of the Blue Valley Yacht Club. They were avid sailors with Al Liebler being a national Flying Junior Champion. The Liebler's only son Scott went sailing with his parents on many occasions in their Mustang class sailboat, named "Scott's Pony."

Although Scott was a skilled sailor he had many other interests that kept sailing on the back burner. His main interest was swimming and he was a Manhattan Marlin in middle school and high school. Eventually swimming was replaced by a new passion, car racing. Scott and his father did the maintenance and tuning of their racing car and eventually started to rebuild motors for other racers. Scott was killed in a tragic "one in a million" car racing accident when he was in his 20's.

Upon his death it was decided to dedicate the Memorial Day long distance race in his name and his parents dedicated a trophy in his name to award to the winner of the race.

Al and Sony Liebler now live in Oklahoma City.



Scott Liebler Memorial Trophy

As most of us know, the Spring Racing Series became a memorial in 2002 after the tragic death of Kyle Chapman, Christopher Shipley and Timothy Bennett.

The three boys were all freshmen at K-State and active members in the Boy Scouts. The three headed out on December 5, 2001 to take advantage of the warm weather and get in one last sail before the winter weather really set in. What authorities have proposed happened was that the boat capsized and the three were unable to right the boat in a reasonable amount of time in the freezing cold water. To this day only the body of Timothy Bennett has been found and the others are presumed dead.

It was decided to name the Labor Day long distance race as a memorial to these sailors in 2002. A cup was donated to be awarded to the winner of the Spring Series Races.

Hopefully this has answered some questions about the origins of the people whose names have been memorialized in our races. Thanks to Ken Conrow and Bart Bartholomew for their help in the stories of these young men's untimely deaths.

At left:

BVYC Spring Series
 In Memory Of
Kyle Chapman, Christopher Shipley, Timothy Bennett

Spring Banquet Catered by Sedalia Church Youth Group

Beautiful decorations, delicious food, meticulous service and a stimulating discussion on the history of Tuttle Lake made the annual Spring Banquet on April 5 a memorable event.

Caterers for the dinner were members of the Sedalia Community Church Youth Group and several dedicated parent supervisors.



Each table was decorated with a unique centerpiece made especially for the Blue Valley Yacht Club



A hand-made sign welcomed the guests to a room filled with historical documents and photographs dating back to the days when the Blue River Valley was a valley filled with rich farmland and thriving towns.



The Martins, Albrights, Thompsons and Kettelsons ready for home-made cheese cake dessert



Sharon Kettelson and Rosalie Thompson looking at old newspapers

After the delicious dinner, the attendees were treated to a slide show/discussion of the history of the Blue River Valley by Kevin Larson, pastor of Sedalia Community Church and history teacher at Riley County High School. Mr. Larson showed hundreds of colored slides, many of them aerial views of the valley showing the numerous towns and vast arrays of fields and ranches that filled the valley. We sailors, as we glide along the surface, now have a much better understanding of what preceded Tuttle Reservoir.

BVYC Grounds Have New Look After April 5 Work Day

As Commodore Hays indicated in his message, if you haven't been to the Club grounds since last Fall you may think you may feel lost. Yes, the porta-potty has a new home, the new shelter is complete, and the array of trash cans have been replaced by a dumpster.



Tom Manney and Carl Hinrichs taking the potty to its new home between the tool sheds

The major project during the work day was pouring and finishing the cement for the first half of the floor in the new shelter. Thanks to the expert engineering by Wayne Martin and Ken Hays and lots of muscle by them and other members present, the new floor was poured and finished to perfection.



Guiding the flow of wet cement from the ready-mix truck and spreading it over the reinforcing mesh wire



Leveling the cement by "sawing" with a 2 x 4



The new floor with mirror-smooth finish

And after a morning of hard work, thanks to our Social Director, Sean Kalic, and his wife Tracie all of the workers enjoyed a delicious lunch.



Lunch, complete with white linen table cloth

Manhattan, KS 66505
Box 961



Let's Sail!

The winter construction projects are completed except for some final fine-tuning, the water level is up to 1073.79 feet, water temperature on the surface is 55 degrees, the weather is getting warmer and the winds are lively. It's time to sail!!!

Race Director Catherine has developed a race schedule with the first race on Sunday, May 4, followed by races on May 11 and 18 and the annual Scott Liebler Memorial on Saturday, May 24. Get your crew organized and trained and be ready to match your skills against other Club members during these races.

Some of the most memorable experiences on Lake Tuttle in past years have occurred during moonlight sails and/or during the raft-up that either precedes or follows the sailing. Let's talk to each other and plan some moonlight sails and raft-ups during the sailing

season.

And, let's put that new shelter to lots of use - - - even without John Willis here to organize them, how about outdoor movies once again?

Happy sailing to everyone!



At right: Evening lash-up, May 2001