

# The Jouster Spring 2016

Windmill Class Association Inc.

# Happy Spring Windmill Sailors!

We've moved the clocks ahead for spring, and hopefully old man winter will go to sleep.

It's time to pull off those covers, give your boat some TLC, and get excited for our 2016 sailing season.

Your governing board is hard at work drafting new by-laws that will have to be voted on at the July Nationals annual meeting.

Sandy is working on the trophy deeds of trust.

Matt and Allie Sponar are taking over the writing and formatting of the newsletter. Send them your feedback, stories, and concerns. The Windmill class is incorporated in the state of Maryland Articles for Tax Exemption, our MD Department ID# D06127773. Our Non-Profit Federal Employer ID number is ID# 47-2704921. Our 2015 Federal and state of Maryland taxes for the Windmill Class have been filed.



3064 Prepares for a new paint iob!





Congratulations to Ethan & Trudy Bixby for winning the Midwinters!



Thomas Mellies, of MD, got sails for Christmas!



Frostbiting in the North! The bitter cold winter couldn't stop some of our sailors!





Check us out at: windmillclass.com

## Flordia Racing!

#### 2016 Midwinters Championship By: Chris & Nancy Demler

First, let me say we were proud to be representing the Hoover Sailing Club for the first time!

Everyone was talking about the up-coming regatta season and several long distance boats are fully committed, and others are considering the trip, to compete at HSC and the Midwestern's. HSC has a great reputation in the Windmill Class and we are looking forward to being part of the club.

After years of wishing and hoping for the hockey gods to produce an "off-weekend', and our wishes being ignored, now that both of our boys are out of the house, we were finally able to attend the Mid-Winter regatta this year. Nancy and I loaded up the gear and prepared for weather ranging from freezing to hot and where greeted by 'just-right' 75 to 80° sunny weather! Even considering how mild the winter has been here in SW Ohio, this was greatly appreciated! And, it blew stink for both days making the 1,000 mile drive there worthwhile!!

The event officially opened on Saturday with a skippers meeting that included the announcement of a new Windmill fleet in Erie, PA. Pat Huntley recently joined the class and bought a new Johansen Windmill #5703 and with his wife Janet they have developed a fleet of 6 boats in Erie (they are hosting their coming out regatta August 13-14th). Congratulations to them, and we hope to see many of you there! After the brief meeting, we were on the water for five races...

The Clearwater Sailing Center is a beautiful spot with two launch ramps and "flat" water on the inside of the bay and "open" water available with a quick sail under a causeway and into the gulf. All the races where staged inside the bay just off the club's beach, making access to the race area super easy and convenient. Dave Ellis, past National and District Champion, was the PRO along with support of two crash boats; they did an excellent job arranging square lines and a simple windward leeward race course that resulted in races lasting about 25-35 minutes.

Given the wind conditions, this time was plenty to separate the fleet.

Saturday the wind started at 12-14 knots and then built through the day to about 18 knots. Five races were run, back-to-back, and you can see in the results that the conditions created challenges for everyone; we all had our good races and our not so good races. Wind was fairly stable, with oscillations of about 10-15°, and outside of random puffs, it was fairly easy to get into a rhythm and keep the boat moving. In the first race, we realized our boat speed was going to be competitive and we focused on sailing clean... but there was no catching the winners Ethan and Trudy Bixby who, once again, made winning look easy. They (5700) are featured in the foreground of this image and we (5705) are where we spent most of the week following them. Saturday finished with a simple lasagna dinner on the deck and a few adult beverages followed by ibuprofen for most.



On Sunday, we were on water first thing and the wind was already blowing 15+ knots and everyone was depowered to the maximum (thanks to Ethan's openness at a post-race debriefing on Saturday evening everyone was well versed regarding various boat and rig adjustments that can be made to help keep the boat in control in heavy air). We won the start of the first (and only) race Sunday and were able to sail over Ethan and Trudy leaving the line... but when he cleared our stern he proceeded to work his way 10+ yards to windward of us...it was an amazing display of skill! They rounded the weather mark in the lead once again and we all followed around

## Flordia Racing!

another leeward-windward lap. By the time we got back to the top mark, the wind had built further and on the final downwind leg of the race everyone was full-on planing.

Our last 300 yards were wide open - we were planing already when a puff hit and spun several boats out...we were all the way in the back of our boat and it was jumping off the wave tops...we had the pole out and the board up...it was crazy! Thankfully we were able to finish without crashing!



Locals Colin Browning and Eric Mann finished 3rd overall, followed closely by class President Ralph Sponar and his wife Sandy. Winning the man-miles award, was Roy Sherman (flew from Washington State) and his crew Eric François (flew from New York) in 5th place. The Huntley's sailed very well too; unfortunately they were not able to sail Sunday which dropped them out of the top five. Another regular at HSC events was local St. Petersburg competitor Lon Ethington and Meg Gimmi, great hosts for Nancy and I for the weekend, who sailed well but had a couple capsizes that hurt their overall result. The event had two new windmillers participate: Dave and Lainey White recently purchased a beautiful wooden boat #5530 (sister ship to Alan Chauvenet's boat who frequently attends HSC regattas and who was impressive in this event completing all six races with his daughter Christina) and Nathaniel Plant and his wife who sailed the class boat #5701 (which is for sale). It was great to meet these enthusiastic sailors, along with the other locals, and we all enjoyed having the great competition and comradery!

On the 'Funny Story' side of the event we offer these tid-bits:

- We had a mark rounding which we agreed to never discuss again which resulting in our losing our tiller extension and swamping the boat...see Race 5 result.
- Colin silently fell out of his boat while landing Sunday...which left Eric questioning what Colin was doing as 'they' appeared to be crashing into the leeward pier? He soon realized there was no one on the helm and as the boat crashed in the gale, Eric made a beautiful 10 point dive into the bay (seriously, he pointed his toes and left no splash). The high-school laser sailors about to head out thought this was great and applauded with gusto!
- Lisa Fath, sailing with her son Jake, came across our lost tiller extension...and inexplicably to us, and Jake, and seconds later inexplicably to herself, she tried to throw the extension 40+ yards back to us. The standard greeting between us is now officially,"See-Ya!"...as in, we'll never see that extension again.
- Alan Taylor was sailing with crew Dalton Cox who is a photography and video buff...they were rolling GoPro in slow motion mode when they crashed spectacularly. We are all hoping for great video of that!
- Trudy Bixby did let on that everything was not as tidy as it appeared to be...apparently Ethan frequently exclaimed, "Uh-oh", "whoa", and made similar statements during the event (she didn't turn around to see why).



## Flordia Racing!

### 2016 Sarasota One-Design By: Sandy Sponar

If you were lucky enough and able to stay the following week Sarasota Sailing Squadron hosted a One Design regatta the weekend 19-20 March. This year we had 8 boats that raced in Sarasota Bay. New owners of Windmill #4481 "Kraken" a father and son, Bob and Rob Woithe came out to race and meet the group. Rob skippered the boat and did a good job for their first time. Matt Wilson came to the boat set up area to take pictures and ask questions. Of all the things I'm very proud of with our association is how much we work to help each other to improve in all ways, boat layouts, repairs, tactics and sail settings.



Saturday dawned and the predicted 3pm thunderstorms decided to arrive at noon instead and Sarasota Sailing Squadron smartly postponed the sailing following the captains meeting. With plenty of room to relax in the covered screened verandas everyone was able to catch up and talk about plans for racing this year. The lightning cleared out to late to set the courses and race, so the club served the low country shrimp boil and opened the bar and the free sponsor donated Bud Light beer was flowing.



Sunday racing got off to an early start in light winds. Ethan and Trudy jumped off the line each race closely followed by Arthur with his crew Rye Heasting who was able to get 1st place in race 3. Lon and Meg kept their movements in the boat small and got 3rd place. A 3 way tie for 4th place had Allen and Sarah Steward who had finished 2nd on the 2nd race winning the overall place. Colin and Eric Mann sailed in his beautiful restored "Bella". Ralph and Lisa's teamwork kept them in the middle of the pack. Robbie and Bob worked hard and were excited to be sailing competitively with the Windmill champions. Perhaps next year we will accept the invitation of Sarasota Sailing Squadron and race for 3 days!



## For the Good of the Class....

Sign up NOW for the 2016 Northern Southern Regatta! Nestled in the woods of Pennsylvania, Prince Gallitzin State Park offers great wind, warm hospitality, and competitive racing!

Bring a Flannel shirt for Saturday night dinner, and join us afterwards at the Coleman Chateau for drinks, bonfires, and fun! Hope to see you all there!

Contact person: John Coleman ifcoleman100@yahoo.com

From Janet Huntley:
For those coming to Erie (for the Aug. 12-14 Regatta) and looking for accomodations please use the link!

http://www.visiteriepa.com/

Do you have a Go Pro? Bring it with you to the Nationals! We are looking to get as many photos/ videos as possible to help promote our fleet. We're happy to help you edit your footage! Contact Matt or Allie Sponar with your questions.

Thank you!

mcsponar@gmail.com
allie.coleman618@gmail.com

#### **DUES ARE DUE!**

Pay your dues by writing a check to Windmill Class Association, Inc. and mail it to Allen Chauvenet.

Your dues go a very long way to funding improvements and

promotion for the class.

## Congratulations! Erie Yacht Club earned their new fleet charter as Fleet 83!

Fleet Captain: Janet Huntley



**Charter Members include:** 

- #5703 Patrick & Janet Huntley
- #5187 Timothy Polaski
- #4450 Dan Claxton
- #3735 John Deimel
- #3524 Jon Tushak & Melanie Glennon

About the home of our new Charter...
Erie Yacht Club

Frie Yacht Club established in 1895 has a long and rich history of sailing. Located between Cleveland, OH and Buffalo, NY. Many fleets call Erie Yacht Club home including Lightning #24 fleet. Our local windmillers welcome everybody

to come race at their venue August 13 & 14. Please show our new fleet your support by at-

tending this new venue. Interested in more information then visit their website at http://www.erieyachtclub.org



### **Welcome New Members**

We always want to take the time to welcome all new members to the class. Our web site has lots of pictures, several videos and articles that can help you lay out and tune your boat. If you have questions, please don't hesitate to call or email people on the board or commodores in your area. We are here to help you, so you can get out and enjoy a sail.

Welcome back to Jim Lingeman a former Windmill Class President and chief Measurer. Jim rejoined as an associate member to support our class.

Karl Kisser in Alaska owns the oldest hull # 262. He rejoined as an associate member to support our class.

Tom & Gina Payne own a classic woody in great shape hull # 3418 also rejoined as an associate member to support our class.

John Deimel new owner of a Mormon hull # 3735 in Erie, PA and the third member of the budding Lake Erie, PA fleet! He's named his boat "Trader" and has signed up for the Northern Southern Regatta in May.

Bob Woithe new owner of a "My Mojo" now named "Kraken" a Mormon hull # 4481 in Sarasota, FL. We hope to get him and his son Rob on the racing circuit this year.

Lainey and her father Dave White are the new owner of a wooden hull # 5530 in Pittsburg, PA. They are competitive fireball sailors and raced in Clearwater Midwinters this March.

Matt and Lisa Wilson bought plans to build a wooden boat last year. Since hen they have completed the new hull # 5567. They live in Florida and came to the Sarasota Regatta.

Have an up coming regatta?
Email our webmaster, Alan Taylor to get it posted on our Windmill site.
alan@lakelevel.com

# The Boom Stops

By: Ralph Sponar III WCA President



I receive many emails, calls, and one-on-one conversations about where to find parts and pieces for Windmills. Therefore I have compiled a list of the most common and essential pieces with vendors, contacts, and phone numbers with prices if applicable.

I am constantly looking for people to volunteer their time and ideas to make the class better. If you have an idea or want to help contact myself or my wife Sandy.

If you are building, fixing, or tweeking your boats and looking for ideas visit the class website to find links to media for tuning, measuring, and modifying Windmills. If you want to share your own modifications but don't have the skills or resources to post videos to the rest of the class contact Matt or Allie Sponar at mcsponar@gmail.com and allie.coleman618@gmail.com.

Lastly, we know schedules are hard to plan sometimes so far ahead but please sign up for Nationals. The earlier we can get our numbers the earlier we can plan and collect resources for the venue. If you are looking to camp please contact Alan Taylor for information.

## **New Bits & Pieces**

New hulls, new sails, new boat pieces... we have prices to share with you! **Johannsen Hulls** 



### **North Sails**

Sails

Jib: \$460 Main: \$795

**Seldon Spars** 

Rigging Pack: \$275

Boom: \$391

Mast: \$975

**Contact: Lin Robson** 727-898-1123



### **Ullman Sails**

Sails

Jib: \$455

Main: \$775

Contact: Gregory Koski 804-776-6151 The WCA Inc has contracted with Mark Johannsen to build the new white class boat, #5704. The bare hull is for sale for

\$4500.



If you're interesed in building a new hull, contact Ralph Sponar & Mark Johannsen. If you want to build a wooden hull, contact Allen Chauvenet, who can provide the plans and details you need to get started!

Jib Launching Pole: \$150

Contact: Colin Browning cbandfamily@yahoo.com

### **Vermont Sails**

Sails

Jib: \$425

Main: \$740 **Covers** 

1 piece hull: \$ 410

Daggerboard: \$ 100

Now accepting orders for covers! They will be making them in Rudder: \$ 75

Mast: \$ 142

Contact: Bill Fastigg

**VERMONT SAILING PARTNERS** 

winooski, vermont

September. **802-655-7245** 

#### **Blades**

Litten builds beautiful, hand crafted, custom, foils for windmills.



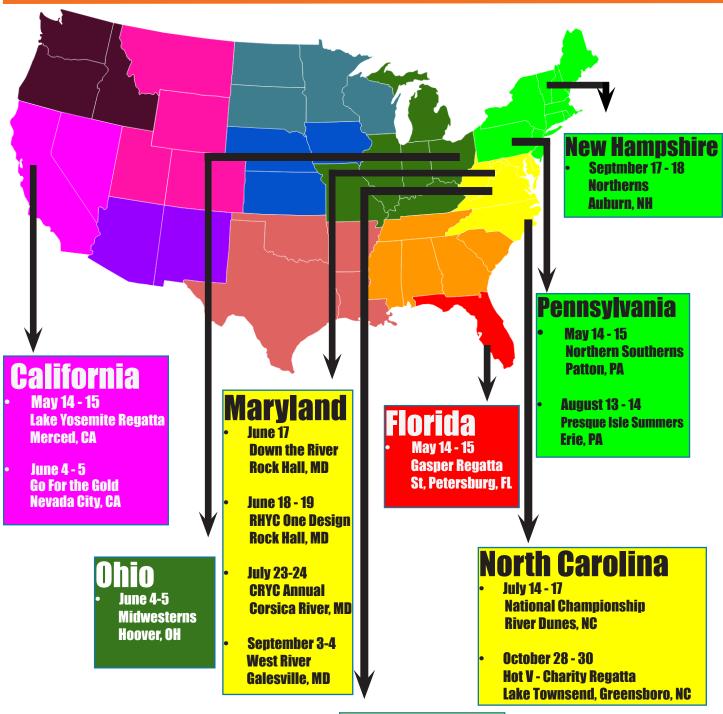
Prices may
vary.
Contact
Litten
directly for
pricing.

Contact: Dan litten 2spanyard@gmail.com



<sup>\*\*</sup>All prices are subject to changes. Sails will take 4-6 weeks to come in.

# **Upcoming Events**



### **Virginia**

August 6 - 7
 Ware River Regatta

 Glocester, VA

## What you need to know about:

The Nationals Oriental, NC July 14-17

\*PLEASE SIGN UP NO LATER THAN
JUNE 1, 2016 AT
WINDMILLCLASS.COM



465 East Harborside Rd. Oriental, NC 28751

River Dunes Yacht Club, in Oriental North Carolina, is our 2016 Nationals venue! Visit their website, riverdunes.com to learn more about the club.

## Lodging

• Camping: River Dunes doesn't offer camping. However, Bay River is a comercial camp ground that is located within 15-20 from the club. They allow dogs.

bedroom cottages for rent overlooking Grace Harbor. Visit riverdunes. com/accommodations, or call (800) 975-9568

- Bed & Breakfasts, Condos, Rental Homes: Visit sailingcapitalofnc.org to find
- Oriental Marina inn ph 252-249-1818, tell them your with the windmill group and we should get a 10 % discount. There rooms are suite style with kitchenettes. www.orientalmarina.com
- House: 4 bedrooms it has A/C a full kitchen and is in Oriental. On the water for \$185 a night, you can go to sailloftrentals.com to reserve
- Other Links: www.towndock.net see classified ads www.vbro.com www.airbnb.com

Cottages: River Dunes has 1,2 or 3