



Jibs and Jibes

Official Newsletter of the Webster Sailing Association

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Notices

Revised Calendar

Please note that a new calendar of events was emailed to the membership on May 18th. Racing dates, times, and social events have changed. You will find it posted on our website, and hard copies are available at the Anchorage.

Mugs

To commemorate our 75th year, WSA is providing a pair of mugs for each membership. See photo. Extras may be purchased for \$5.00 each. When you pick yours up at the Anchorage, please sign off on them.

Decals

WSA is providing a window decal for each membership. See photo. Extras may be purchased at the Anchorage for \$1.00 each.

Member Discounts

WSA thanks the following local businesses for \$350 worth of gift certificates and concert tickets given as door prizes at the Spring Banquet:

Lic's
The Lodge
Bistro Eighty Ates
Townline
Waterfront Mary's
The Colonial Club
Point Breeze
Michael's
Indian Ranch

Most of these businesses will now give WSA members discounts by simply presenting your WSA membership card! Support our lake neighbors!

A new Benefit Program for WSA was arranged & presented by Tom Pezzella. Discounts on local businesses are now available to WSA members at no cost. View the details on our website, pick up your packet at the Anchorage, or contact Tom.

Commodore's Message

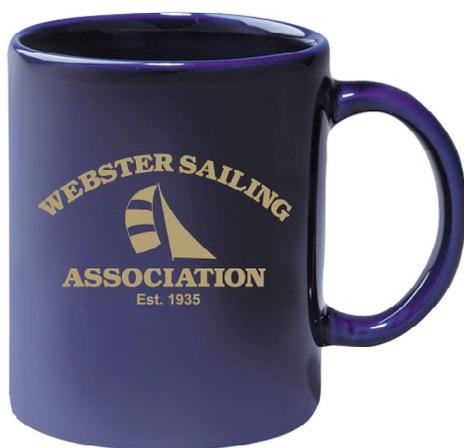
Welcome again to WSA's 75th Anniversary year! Amazingly, sailboat racing on Webster Lake has been unbroken since 1899. WSA was formed in 1935 and is still going strong. Members would find some interesting reading about the club and the lake in the revised History of WSA, recently written by Commodore Tom Pezzella. You can find this on our website, or you can pick up your own copy at the Anchorage. We hope you make the time to get out and enjoy the lake more in 2010!

Membership

New Members

We have about a dozen members who have joined WSA in the past two years. *Jibs and Jibes* would like to welcome:

Theodore Agos	North Oxford, MA
Lee Amodeo	Southbridge, MA
Adam Clay	Attleboro, MA
Jim Ducharme	Douglas, MA
Scott Emond	Franklin, MA
Nathaniel Hasenfus	New Braintree, MA
Helder Machado	Sutton, MA
Glyn Oakley	Brooklyn, CT
Kim Otis & Lynne Lennon	Granby, MA
Michael Perry	Acton, MA
Peter Plumb	Whitinsville, MA



A pair of these WSA mugs is free to each member. Additional mugs are \$5 each.



One WSA window decal is free to members. Additional ones are \$1 each.

Events

Work Parties

On Saturday, April 3rd, Commodore Tom rallied some 30+ members to arrive at the Anchorage for a very spirited workday. The weather was a perfect blend of sun and warmth. Norm Cloutier and his powerpacked Bobcat (See photo) mobilized the docks, while an enthusiastic group, some in full water regalia, positioned and secured the docks in place. Another crew with rakes and cutting shears cleaned up the leaves and brush and trimmed branches overhanging the metal border fencing. Still another group repainted the Anchorage façade (See photo) while others began the process of installing the decorative white lattice panels in front of the concrete retaining wall. Many commented that they had never seen the lake water level so high and, when the dingies were positioned, they were half on the sand and half in the water.

A brief respite from work occurred when Bob Gurlitz informed the group about the difference between WSA, Inc. and the WSA Trust. He had diligently researched the subject, and reported on the present status of the trust and its need to have three appointed or elected trustees. This topic will be brought up at the Annual Spring Banquet on May 1st. All in all, it was a very successful opening work party.

On May 15th another Saturday morning work party was held. The installation of the white lattice panels was completed, more Anchorage painting was accomplished, and the yard cleanup was completed.



Work Party, April 2010



Work Party, April 2010

Spring Banquet

Our Spring Banquet and Business Meeting at the Point Breeze Restaurant in Webster may have been the best ever! It took place on Saturday, May 1, a beautifully warm summer-like evening. There were between 55 and 60 people in attendance. Cocktails, cheese, crackers and hors d'oeuvres were enjoyed by all, followed by a wonderful dinner and camaraderie.

Commodore Tom opened the business portion of the meeting by reviewing in some detail the fascinating history of the WSA and its evolution over the years. He then surprised the group by unveiling a large 12-foot WSA banner, which will be attached to the side of the committee boat and visible from a long distance. It was very impressive. Being full of surprises he then opened a box containing WSA inscribed blue mugs (See photo.), with each registered member or family entitled to take home two of them.

Tom then discussed the possibility of WSA's being included in the Webster Lake Association's discounted business arrangement if they desired. This is usually only open to corporations. This opportunity would allow members to purchase items or services from a variety of vendors at discounted prices. He explained that there is no membership fee for the WSA to belong and no obligation to purchase anything. Some questions were raised about any WSA liability if any of its

members experienced any unfavorable outcome with any of the vendors. Bob Gurlitz reminded the group that WSA's mission is one of promoting sailing and sailboat racing and not being involved in any other endeavors. The decision to join the discounted business arrangement passed by a simple majority vote of 12 to 11.

Bob Gurlitz discussed the important matter of the WSA Trust situation and it was decided to elect the three trustees required for the trust at our fall meeting. See details on our website and at The Anchorage.

The banquet concluded with a group photo.

Articles

Tying the Knot: What's in a Word?

Never having been skilled at tying the correct knot in my sailing world, I'm sometimes overcome by depression and, not unlike the Prince of Denmark, find myself thinking:

To be, or [**knot**] to be: that is the question:
Whether 'tis nobler in the mind to suffer
The slings and arrows of outrageous fortune,
Or to take arms against a sea of troubles,
And by opposing end them?

A "**sea** of troubles" is no accidental double entendre and may certainly result if you don't tie the proper knot. The struggle goes on and the world of knots carries a dizzying array of words. My mainsheet and jib sheet have them; as do my anchor line, halyards, boom vang, outhaul, bouy ring, and the list continues. Also the oaks, maples, and birches in my yard have them and it came as no great surprise to learn that even my son was considering "tying the knot." Much is indeed in a word.

When exploring the world of marine knots, multiple resources abound, all made somewhat easier in this modern world of Google. So if you are ever overwhelmed by that infamous question, "To be or Knot to be," try the link http://www.sailingusa.info/sailing_knots.htm for information about knots, complete with videos on tying the square knot, sheet bend, bowline, clove hitch, round turn & two half-hitches, figure-eight knot, and the cleat hitch.

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