



Jibs & Jibes

***Official Newsletter of the
Webster Sailing Association***

SPRING EDITION 2020



From the Helm

By Tom Pezzella, Commodore

Dear members,

In these strange and challenging times, the value of WSA becomes even more apparent to me. We have a relatively safe location to enjoy a family cookout before or after a relaxing sail, do a little fishing, or just get out in the fresh air alone in a beautiful setting. This, of course, is at the discretion of each member. Recent health concerns have postponed our group activities, but the club is still available for members to individually enjoy. Some members have been sanding, cleaning and painting. The water is on, and a hose and bucket is available.

If you still need more information on the coronavirus, please see the attached information provided by our member, Dr. John Mordes. Thank you, John, for your professional input.

We have tentatively rescheduled the Spring Banquet to Friday, July 10th, still at Point Breeze Restaurant. If that date holds, I will send out a notice for members to send in checks and forms to Vic Stefaniak. The schedule, menu and price remain the same, so your forms and checks will still be valid if you have saved them.

You will see many physical changes on the property this year, perhaps the most of any season. Our thanks to Ken for including pictures of all the work and equipment completed. We have made a new shoreline dock, sunfish rack, and floating dock sections. You will find two new sunfish on the shoreline for member use. The key and sign out sheet are in the Anchorage. A 3,000 pound floor jack is available in the tool shed for work on you boat and



trailer. Norm, our treasurer, has a new fireproof safe to store all important documents.

The most noticeable Improvements are to the Anchorage itself. We have sealed leaking windows, supported a sagging roof, replaced rotten wood, and updated old, inefficient electrical fixtures. The front and back flood lights are now on motion, so please do not touch the light switches inside. The entire exterior has been vinyl sided, with new shutters, gutters, and downspouts. This should free us all up for less work parties and more sailing!

Our thanks to all those who made this happen. We were able to pay for these improvements without raising dues, and with the additional money taken in from the winter storage fee. It simply would not have been possible without this.

Let's all stay safe and positive as we await better times ahead this summer, and anticipate that first day of sun and wind on our face on beautiful Webster Lake.

Tom Pezzella

Commodore

WSA Executive Committee Announcements



This section is from the following that may have statements or announcements for the WSA members: Senior Vice - Commodore, Vice Commodore, Executive Committee, Treasurer, Secretary, Race Committee, Grounds Committee, Communications Committee, Program Committee, Nominating Committee, Jibs & Jibes Editor and Webmaster.



From our Grounds Chairman, Josh Hines - Hello fellow sailors and welcome to the 2020 season. I hope you enjoyed the mild winter and have been continuing your life as “normally” as possible through the unfortunate “new normal” that the COVID-19 pandemic has created. I would first like to thank Charlie Farber for his assistance with managing the parking assignments and generating the new parking map. The new parking

assignments are posted at the club. All accommodations and requests were considered when possible. As a result of the pandemic, the decision was made to open the club early to accommodate members and provide a place for solitude. Members like Patrick took full advantage of this. I think that he set the record for earliest sail of 2020 setting out on his first sail on April 5th. For those members who have been or are unable to step their mast, the executive committee previously extended the date to May 1st. If you are unable to step your mast by May 15th, please reach out to me so we can work something out.

If you have not yet been down to the club this year, there has been a significant amount of work that has been done. In early March, a team worked to rebuild one dock section and fabricate a section of dock along the waterline leading to the new sunfish racks. Thanks to everyone who helped. Later in March, the open work party was completed by a group of 10 who worked hastily to get the docks in the water. Due to the pandemic, many could not attend or chose not to attend due to a variety of reasons and concerns. Earlier this month, a contractor was hired to install vinyl siding on the clubhouse to replace the failing and degrading cedar shingles. The whole building now looks great and another plus is no more scrapping and painting the other side of the clubhouse. Thanks to Tom Pezzella for coordinating and following up the contractor on this project. Lastly, I would like to thank John Colby for taking charge and organizing many of the items in the shed. The new bins make things much more organized, easier to find, and makes the shed much more accessible.

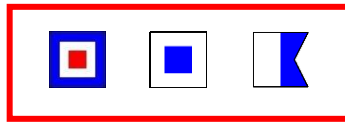
I will be creating the weekly clubhouse cleaning duty roster early next month and will reach out to those who are chosen through the lottery. Remember, WSA is your club and it is a group effort to maintain the facilities. I hope to see many of you are able to enjoy the solitude of the club in these times of distancing. It is my hope we will return to some semblance of normalcy sooner than later and look forward to seeing many of you at the club this season!



From our Treasurer, Norman Cloutier – Norm submitted the Treasurer Report to the WSA members at the Fall Banquet Meeting on 8/24/2019. For the complete report, please contact Norm for a copy.



From the Jibs & Jibes Editor, Ken Spindola – Obviously due to the circumstances at hand, this Spring is not our usual preparation for our sailing season. However, we may still ready ourselves but with caution, and enjoy the sailing season with social distancing. I would like to thank those that contributed to this Spring Newsletter as it truly makes it a WSA members newsletter.



Members DIY Hints

Member hints regarding upgrades and boat maintenance including boat product critiques.

10 Best Shoes For Sailing In 2020

The Best Shoes For Sailing

Sailing is a way of life. When you are out on the ocean waves with the wind in your face, you feel at one with nature. Sailing is a part of who you are. When you are traversing the winds of the sea and the currents underneath, you want to be in control.

The **best boat** shoes for sailing give you this control.

A top rated sailing shoe will be comfortable. They will be non-slip. They will be durable and able to stand up to the elements. They will be something you can forget about as you navigate to your destination. Here are ten of the very best.



1. ALEADER Men's Quick Drying Aqua Shoes For Sailing



2. Dreamcity Men's Water Grip Outsole Shoes For Sailing



3. ALEADER Men's Mesh Slip-on Shoes For Sailing



4. Sperry Top-Sider
Woman's Bluefish Boat Shoes For Sailing



5. Sperry Top-Sider Men's Sea Kite Boat Shoes For Sailing



6. Sperry Top-Sider Men's Tarpon Boat Shoes For Sailing



7. Adidas Outdoor Men's Boat Shoes For Sailing

8. XTRATUF Finatic II Men's Deck Shoes For Sailing



9. Helly Hanson Women's Aquapace 2 Shoes For Sailing



10. Columbia Women's Vulc N Vent Canvas Shoes For Sailing



How To Choose Shoes For Sailing –

Size

Sailing shoes often do not follow the same sizing conventions of a regular shoe. If you are buying a sailing shoe for the first time, you should buy one in a store where you can get your foot measured and try some on.

Material

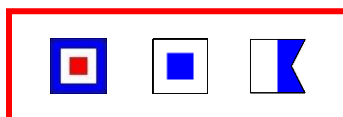
Leather, suede, canvas and other synthetic materials are commonly found in sailing shoes. The material you decide on depends on your needs. Do you need a durable shoe or one which is more comfortable? Try some on and see how they feel.

Non-Slip Sole

It goes without saying that boat decks come with a lot of water. If you are going to be moving around a slippery deck, then non-slip shoes are a must.

Uppers

An upper will wick the water from your feet and keep them dryer for longer. Leather will be softer and more comfortable. Synthetics will dry faster. The choice is up to you.





WSA & Lake News

Any news or events that are WSA or lake related.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBER... WEBSTER POLICE NUMBER IN CELLPHONES TO CALL FOR ASSISTANCE WHILE ON THE LAKE **508-943-1212**

2020 GATE COMBINATION

The gate combination has been changed for the 2020 season. The number is on the back of your membership card.

WSA: COMMODORE'S UPDATE...

Dear members,

I want to give you an update on WSA.

First, thank you to the members would helped us reach all of our goals on



Saturday while observing social distancing. There was no coffee, donuts or socializing in groups. Every door knob, light switch, counter, sink and toilet have been disinfected. All docks are in the water including WSA's two new sunfish, locked on their new dock. The key is hanging in the kitchen, and a separate sign in book is on the table.(I know it's early for a sunfish!). The

grill and tables are waiting for you.

The Executive Committee has decided to make some temporary changes to our rules and bylaws. Rather than wait until April first, WSA is open immediately. You can bring your boat up, work on it, or go sailing. Those who took





advantage of winter storage can leave your boats covered, or take them home to work on them. We are pushing back the date to uncover boats and stand your masts until May first, and this may be adjusted going forward. Please remember that life jackets ARE REQUIRED for anyone on the water.

Special thanks to Norm and the use of his bobcat, and to our newly appointed Safety Officer John Colby for refilling the first aid kit and helping all of us to be safe.

You will find a new 3000-lb floor jack available to lift your boat or trailer to work on them. Simply twist the handle clockwise or counterclockwise to raise or lower.

On Saturday, the gate combination was changed to 2020. Easy to remember, yes? Hopefully, I'll get less calls when you are standing at the gate! But call if you need to. Why not keep the membership card with the combination that Lee sent you in your wallet?

If you go and want to help out, you can wash the three painted floors, and vacuum the rug. We will have a light Work Party sometime in the future to rake the yard, and for general clean up, but if you're looking for exercise, use the rakes and wheelbarrow and dump the leaves down in the far corner near the wall and spruce tree.

Finally, when you get there you will see a brand new exterior to your building! An update on the Spring Banquet will be sent out as soon as a decision is made. My guess is that it will not occur in April.

We were thinking of those members who are out of work, at home, and looking for a safe place to go and get some fresh air, and for those who sail early in the season. You will undoubtedly be at WSA alone. We do ask you to remember to sign in ALL family members and visitors. Wear gloves if you wish. There is disinfectant spray and paper towels available for you to wipe down any surfaces that you touch. We will stay open until any "shelter in place" orders are given for Massachusetts. All members should decide what is best for them.

Stay safe.

Tom Pezzella
Commodore

ANCHORAGE FACELIFT...

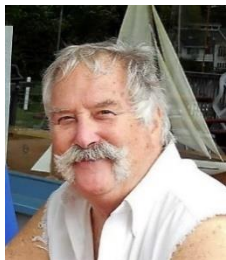


BEFORE

AFTER



APPRECIATED EFFORTS...



Our thanks to Jim Ducharme for removing the old wooden shingles, and to John Colby for cleaning and organizing the tool shed.

THE RACING SCHEDULE FOR 2020.....

The same safety and racing rules implemented in the past will be enforced for the 2020 season. Due to the virus situation, scheduling may be revised.



Kenyon Series Races – 2:00pm start

May

31 – 1st Kenyon Series Race

June

7 – 2nd Kenyon Series Race

14 – 3rd Kenyon Series Race

28 – 4th Kenyon Series Race

July

12 – 5th Kenyon Series Race

19 – 6th Kenyon Series Race

26 – 7th Kenyon Series Race

August

9 – 8th Kenyon Series Race

16 – 9th Kenyon Series Race

30 – Race Make-Up Day



Racing Events

July 4th Trophy Race – Sunday July 5th, 1:00pm start

Sunfish Regatta – Saturday July 25th, open race (members & non-members),

10:00am registration, cookout & trophies after race

Craver Memorial Trophy Race – Sunday August 2nd, 2:00pm start

Phil Nims Memorial Trophy Race – Sunday August 23rd, 2:00pm start

Point Breeze Cup Race – Sunday September 12th, open race (members & non-members), 9:30am registration, 10:00am skipper's mtg., 5:00pm dinner &

Trophies

THE WSA 2020 EVENT SCHEDULE...

The following is a summary of events planned for this season. For additional information, see the WSA website at www.wsasail.org. Due to the virus situation, scheduling may be revised.



March 7th Saturday – **DOCK RE-BUILDING WORK PARTY**, 9:00am (rain date 3/14)

March 21st Saturday – **OPENING WORK PARTY**, 9:00am (rain date 3;30)

April 1st Wednesday – **WSA ANCHORAGE OPEN FOR 2019 SEASON**

April 19th Sunday – ***POSTPONED*** - **SPRING BANQUET**, Point Breeze @5:00pm

June 20th Saturday – **OPEN HOUSE**, 11:00am

July 5th Sunday – **FRIENDS & FAMIL DAY**, 4:00pm Lake Tours & Appetizers,
5:00pm Cookout

August 30th Sunday – **FALL BANQUET / BUSINESS MTG. / RACE TROPHIES**,
5:00pm

October 24th Saturday – **CLOSING WORK PARTY**

November 30th Monday – **WSA CLOSSES FOR THE 2019 SEASON**

SPRING BANQUET POSTPONED...

Due to the current health crisis, the Spring Banquet has been postponed until sometime in the future. We will combine both banquets, elect officers, award trophies and see you all at Point Breeze at that time. So it will not be a pot luck dinner at the Anchorage this year. Those who sent in forms and checks will receive them back shortly. You can resubmit the same form.

WSA COAST GUARD UPDATE...



Thanks goes out to John Colby, WSA Safety Officer, for refurbishing and updating the WSA First Aid Kit. John indicated that all CG activities are now on hold. There is a Vessel Inspection Day at WSA scheduled for May 31 at 12 noon if restrictions are lifted by then.

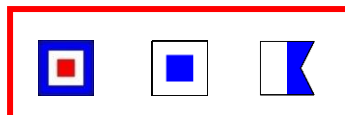
DONATED OUTDOOR FURNITURE...



You'll notice some new furniture at the anchorage. Friends of WSA have donated their outdoor furniture to the association and will be put to good use on the deck.

WSA SUNFISH BOATS...

We have two donated Sunfish Sailboats. These boats can be signed out by members. We hope that members who might not have otherwise participated in the Sunfish Regatta might enjoy the benefit of these club boats.



ON THE LIGHTER SIDE...

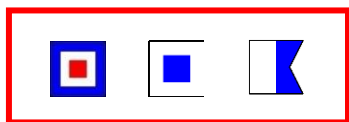


EVEN THE BIRDS DO SOCIAL DISTANCING...wait until there's food!

(sent in by Tom P.)



(sent in by Elaine C.)





Members Blog

This section is a hub for members to share their thoughts, questions, opinions and stories.

COVID-19 RECOMMENDATIONS...

John P. Mordes, M.D. - Not to be a wet blanket, but...

I am attaching current recommendations for the prevention of the spread of covid-19. We at UMass are expecting maximum impact in central Massachusetts around April 14 and continuing high levels of concern for some weeks afterwards. People who choose to use WSA facilities during this period, as if they were to be taking a walk in a park, need for now to observe the precautions outlined in this document. It's each other and not the wonderful breezes on the lake we need to worry about.

As unhappy as it may be to realize that our sailing is going to be seriously impacted for a time, I think the newsletter should have these CDC recommendations attached and some appropriate words from the commodore. I think there's an excellent chance that things will be much better this summer. Keep safe,

REGATTA PONT...

Tom Pezzella - We have partnered with Regatta Point for our mutual benefit. One of our goals is to promote and attract younger people to the sport of sailing. It is our hope that in this process of RP's teaching of our youth to sail, that as adults they will purchase their own boats and become members of WSA.

TRAILOR CHECKING...

Bob Gorlitz (Spring 2019) - A reminder for all members who trailer their boats to WSA to check the wheel bearings and trailer lights before taking to the road. Also be sure to register the trailer for the current year. Last Fall I was lucky to get my boat home... I didn't drive on a major highway and I stopped a few times

to be sure that the bearings were not overheating. I replaced the bearings and applied new grease last fall for about \$50.

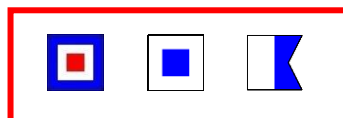
BOAT PREPERATION...

The late Roger Livingston (Spring 2019) - PREPARING YOUR BOAT FOR A NEW SEASON OF SAILING...

Most people take the cover off (hopefully there was a cover) in the spring and trailer their boats to the club. Sometimes I see boats arrive at the club with leaves covering the inside and even a little water. They will rig their boats and go for a sail hoping nothing breaks, and sometimes this works. However there are few little things you can do before you leave the house to insure a safe and happy sailing season.

- Clean the boat and thoroughly dry it out. Unfortunately, during the winter we get mold build up which can stain the hull. Leaves left rotting in the boat can also cause serious staining on fiberglass.
- Check for cracks in the hull. Freezing water can cause serious damage. Obviously fix any damage.
- Check all standing and running rigging. Replace any stays with broken strands. Replace all frayed lines.
- Check sails for any rips or holes. They will only get bigger when under sail. At the very least, repair with sail tape.
- Check all fittings for looseness. Tighten when necessary and replace backing plates if you cannot retighten nuts and bolts.
- If you have an outboard motor, you should have drained all gas out of it. I even spray fogging oil in the cylinder. In the spring, put fresh gas in the tank and replace the sparkplug. Start it up at the beginning of the season to see if it runs smoothly. You don't want to find out it doesn't start when you need it.

Most of us sail old boats and it is important to maintain them properly so they will survive.



WSA Photo Gallery

(photos provided by Tom P.)



WIRED SKY OVER THE LAKE



POINT BREEZE SUNSET



COLD MOON OF DECEMBER



LAST ICE OF 2020



*5 of 8 surviving cignets
from this past summer*



*New bald eagle nest being built
on Goat Island*



*New sunfish rack built by Josh Hines,
John Benoit, Tom Pezzella*

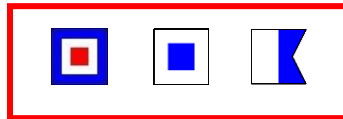


*New shoreline dock and
sunfish rack*

(photos provided by Stan S.)



Stan Schertzer 1st sail of the season on his birthday....Happy B-Day Stan !



Classifieds:

Items for sale, for free, or available services

To all members:

We are replacing the following, and are making the old ones available to any member that wants them:

2 sets blue plastic shutters, 14.5" X 59.5" in good shape, needs to be painted.

3 sets. 14.5" X 29.5".

1 white metal gutter, 26 feet long, with 6' downspout and 2 elbows

