



Jibs and Jibes

Official Newsletter of the Webster Sailing Association

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Notices

Closing work party

Our closing work party is at 9am on Saturday October 22. As our last scheduled activity for the season, it will give you an opportunity to say "So long!"

Grounds closing

On November 30, WSA will close for the season. By this date, all members must remove all of their boats, including dinghies.

Commodore's Message

Like me, I'm sure you've reflected on the cyclic nature of our sailing season. First there is that great rush in the spring to ready the boat earlier and sail her sooner than last year. Then there are the golden days of summer, when we try to balance our busy lives with precious sailing time and whatever Nature is offering. The fall reminds us that those days are numbered and few, as we squeeze in the last good sail, and begrudgingly tow our boat home. Finally there is an eternity of winter, as we stare out at the covered craft in the backyard, longing for better days at the Lake. I'm thinking of getting an ice boat to be at The Anchorage earlier next year!

This season WAS a good one, with WSA at full capacity, 10 new members, and a renewed interest in racing. All committees functioned well to make 2011 a very successful and enjoyable year. Thanks to all of you for your efforts! Both

our finances and our property are in great shape. We continue to work with our neighbors and the Webster Lake Association in keeping the grounds up to a high standard, and WSA remains well thought of in the community.

Wishing you a quick off-season, and enjoyable holidays with family and friends.

Tom Pezzella

Events

Fall Meeting and Banquet

On Sept. 11, a beautiful day devoid of the sweltering summer heat, our WSA fall meeting was called to order on the Anchorage deck by Commodore Tom with approximately 35 people in attendance. A moment of silence was observed in memory and honor of the victims of 9/11/2001. The quiet, calm, almost windless air at the anchorage contrasted dramatically with all our memories of the horrors of that fateful day. Tom welcomed our new members present and announced that for 2011, 10 new members were enrolled.

Norm Clotier in his treasurer's report noted that income exceeded expenses by \$4486 leaving the Association with a balance of \$9300 for the year and total assets of \$19,353. These are held in two CDs and one savings account. Norm was very pleased they weren't in the "market", a comment that brought chuckles of agreement from the group. Several minutes of individual comments brought a delightful air of levity to the meeting.

Kim Otis was voted in as our new official co-secretary. Our Commodore then introduced the Committee Chairs and some brief discussion ensued. Doug Kenyon mentioned the somewhat shifting carpet in the building and wondered whether a mat would solve the problem. Tom will investigate possible remedies. Roger noted that all the moorings are full. Some deficiency in mooring integrity developed, which required correction. John Colby reminded the membership of our WSA Facebook page where many photos are available for viewing. Alan invited any members interested in contributing sailing articles to submit them for possible inclusion into our *Jibs and Jibes* newsletter. Tom informed the group that the Webster Lake Association again provided our harbor with chemical weed treatments this year, saving us potential expenses in this regard. WSA contributes about \$100 annually to the Lake Association and our working relationship is very good.

Tom and Norm will investigate the purchase of a new chase boat and outboard motor. It is needed for safely conducting the races and providing assistance to stranded boaters.

Election of officers was held. With no new candidates volunteering, the present slate was re-elected. As new business, Roger recommended the purchase of a wireless weather station for our anchorage to help get a better handle on wind and weather conditions. A motion was made and this was passed. Tom moved that we appropriate \$500 for 2012 for potential new projects should they arise. This was passed. The issue of trees on our property was raised: the nuisance some cause by dirtying boats, and their potential for causing damage. Tom and Norm will investigate two different tree trimming companies and the lower bidder will be hired. Norm showed the group a new weed rake now in our arsenal and available for anybody's usage.

Following the meeting, a wonderful assortment of scrumptious entrees and deserts was served and an enjoyable time was had by all. After dinner the festive awarding of race trophies highlighted the evening and was punctuated with great humor. Roger Livingston and Sally Mitchell will have to purchase more trophy cabinets for their home.

Racing

The Season

Doug Kenyon, Chairman of the Race Committee, reports that race participation improved over last year. Trophy races increased from 26 to 34 boats. The Point Score Series increased from 5 to 11 boats that raced in at least 50% of the races. The Sunfish Regatta increased from 7 to 9 boats and the Point Breeze Regatta from 7 to 16 boats. Roger Livingston and Sally Mitchell were the big winners this year, winning the Point Score Series and both the July 4 and Phil Nims Memorial Trophy races.

Results

The complete results are posted on the WSA website, <http://www.wsasail.org/race2011.pdf>. The top finishers are as follows:

<u>The July 4 Trophy Race:</u>	
First Place:	Roger Livingston
Second Place:	Bob Ciabaszewski
Third Place:	Pete Schotanus
<u>The Craver Memorial Trophy Race:</u>	
First Place:	Pete Schotanus
Second Place:	Roger Livingston
Third Place:	Doug Kenyon
<u>The Phil Nims Memorial Trophy Race:</u>	
First Place:	Roger Livingston
Second Place:	Bob Cloman
Third Place:	Pete Schotanus
<u>The Sunfish Regatta:</u>	
First Place:	Doug Kenyon
Second Place:	Pete Schotanus
Third Place:	Bob Ciabaszewski
<u>The 2010 Point Score Series:</u>	
First Place:	Roger Livingston
Second Place:	Bob Cloman
Third Place:	Jon Barthel
<u>The Point Breeze Regatta:</u>	
First Place:	Bob Ciabaszewski Darlene Snay
Second Place:	Bob Cloman
Third Place:	Lee Amodeo

The Patriot , a weekly newspaper published in Webster, wrote an article on the Sunfish Regatta.

The 2011 Nancy Trull Boyd Award

The Executive Committee selected John Benoit to receive the 2011 Nancy Trull Boyd Sportsmanship Craftsmanship Award. This award is presented to a racing skipper or crew that has shown outstanding improvement in his or her sailing craft by demonstrating superior racing skill and sportsmanship on the race course. The candidate must also show his or her support for the Webster Sailing Association by being involved in committees and activities.

In his nominating letter, Doug Kenyon, Chairman of the Race Committee, cited John's steady improvement in his racing skills over many years of racing at WSA, his sportsmanship on the racecourse, and his service. John currently serves on the Race Committee, the Nominating Committee, and is a WSA Trustee. He also serves on other committees when needed.

Editor's Perspective

Irene -- the Watery and Windy Lady

Alerts from Commodore Tom and Roger Livingston went out to the WSA membership early in the week of Aug. 22 that Irene would be reaching New England by Saturday evening, Aug. 27. Based on their experience with hurricane forces -- both water and wind -- their emails were full of important information and helpful suggestions for damage prevention of sailboats, dinghies, and property.

On Thursday, Aug. 25, I drove to the Anchorage, unlocked the gate, and decided to take a little sail before preparing my Hunter for Irene's arrival. Upon returning, I experienced what must be referred to as a "calm before the storm". I found myself so becalmed that I had trouble returning to the dock. The Anchorage was then a beehive of activity with some members taking their sailboats out of the water, others taking off sails, lowering masts and booms, removing their rudders, and some taking their boats back home for a potentially safer harbor. The committee

boat was removed from the water by Commodore Tom, John Benoit, and Roger and stored in its usual place under the Anchorage deck overhang.

Deck chairs had already been placed inside. I removed my sails and rudder and securely fastened my Hunter to its trailer. The Watery and Windy Lady arrived as expected, downgraded from a hurricane to a tropical storm, but with its full force more directly affecting the Connecticut shoreline. Surprising many New Englanders, the greatest regional devastation occurred in, of all places, the Green Mountain State with roaring, overflowing rivers and streams causing incredible damage, washing away bridges and roads. Some small towns found themselves isolated from rescue attempts and support.

A report on Monday morning, Aug. 29 from Henry Neeser described one boat off its trailer and a moored Hunter lying on its side. Later that day John Benoit reported that the boat off its trailer had been replaced and the moored boat had re-righted itself.

Fortunately, WSA was spared any significant damage. Despite the hi-tech weather analyzing instruments and radar intensity images, plotting the **exact** course of a hurricane or tropical storm is still somewhat imprecise. The lesson to be learned comes from our original email warnings from Tom & Roger: BETTER SAFE THAN SORRY.



courtesy of Henry Neeser



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