



# Jibs and Jibes

## Official Newsletter of the Webster Sailing Association

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### Season Half Over

It is hard to believe we are in the beginning of August already. The season is half over and there hasn't been much activity at the facility. On even the best weekends, I've only seen 5 or 6 sailboats on the lake. Only a handful of people showed up for the family/old friends day which is usually a fantastic event for us.

Many organizations like ours are seeing a steady decline in participation and overall interest in small boat sailing. Changing lifestyles and competing activities are a big factor. More than a few people have come up to me and told me they don't have the time to sail anymore.

As an organization, dedicated to promoting sailing and racing on Webster Lake, we have an obligation to try and improve participation. I think we need to examine our current activity schedule and try and come up events that have broader

appeal. To do that we need to hear from you, our members, with suggestions.

### From the Starting Line

The weather has been kind of mixed for racing this year with uncertain weather and light winds. The July 4<sup>th</sup> Trophy Race was held in very light air with only 5 boats participating. Only one person showed up for the Sunfish regatta and it was cancelled. No one showed up for the point score race the next day and it was also cancelled.

The Craver Memorial Race on August 7<sup>th</sup>, saw 7 boats competing in light to moderate winds. A beautifully restored Flying Dutchman sailed by Dan Jolda was seen racing across the lake with the spinnaker flying. It was a great day of racing for all of us.

#### Results of the July 4<sup>th</sup> race

1. Peter Schotanus
2. Bob Gurlitz
3. Jim Kroll
4. Victor Stephaniak
5. Paul Colacchio

#### Results of the Craver Memorial Race

1. Doug Kenyon
2. Bob Rowan
3. Bob Gurlitz
4. Roger Livingston
5. Victor Stefaniac
6. Dan Jolda

### Welcome New Members

- Robert Chipman and Marie Young
- John and Sue Colby
- Gilles and Patty Pipernos
- Igor Rabkin
- William Senecal
- Jeffrey Ward
- Neal Whitehead

## From the Commodore

Tom Pezzella

### Thanks.

As always, some members take it upon themselves to make improvements around The Anchorage without being asked. You've probably noticed the new, hand-made and stenciled curtains on all the windows. Those are courtesy of Sally Mitchell. You may also find her raking the beach, planting flowers or pruning bushes with Roger Livingston. Roger also repaired the ladder on the dock. Some of us remember the two of them stripping the roof last season.

Doug Kenyon has logged many hours getting the new motor and committee boat in good working order. By the way, Doug has a perfect first-place racing record this year.....can anyone beat him?

Dan Wilhelm and Jim Oosterman have done an outstanding job with the dry sailing and mooring assignments, and membership/email lists, which seem to change weekly.

New Secretary Joe Aurelio is doing a tremendous job with all the details of his office.

Donna Strok put together all the cleaning assignments for the season so The Anchorage and grounds stay in good shape. If you get a letter with Donna's return address on it, don't throw it away!

### Remembering those who have sailed away.

We were sad to hear of the passing of long time WSA member Alma Putnam. She was 93 years old and died at home. Her husband, John, was Race Committee Chairman for many years, and our flag pole bears a plaque in his honor.

Before the club owned property, races were started from the Putnam property, just inside Reid Smith Cove on the right. Sally (Putnam) Roberts, a daughter, was an active racer, stays

in touch with WSA from her Missouri home via our web site and regularly donates to the club.

A graveside service will be held at Zion Cemetery in Webster on August 27<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am. I'm sure the family would appreciate any WSA members who can attend.

Also this spring, we lost another old sailor, Larry Simonds. He and his wife Rose Mary made many contributions to WSA going back to the 1950's. At the Spring Banquet, it was announced that a new annual award will be given in Larry's honor to a member who has made a significant contribution to the club. An honor roll plaque was presented to Rose Mary and now hangs in the clubhouse awaiting the first recipient

### Insurance.

Some questions have been raised about liability at the Anchorage, and particularly on club owned boats. After consulting with our insurance agent, and his review of our policy, the membership must be aware of the following points.

- All members MUST submit proof of insurance for their boat(s) upon joining WSA, and at renewal time, ANNUALLY.
- Members should sign in and out each time they're on WSA premises.
- Guests must sign the guest book AND be accompanied by a member.
- Members are insured for liability through their family memberships.
- Members can't sue members or WSA... a third party may. Liabilities are for third parties.
- Guests and/or passengers on WSA boats are covered.

We also voted at the Spring Banquet, to raise the coverage on the Anchorage to \$110,000 to keep pace with replacement costs.

### The Point Breeze Regatta is on !

After extensive renovation, Point Breeze is reopened and owner A.J. (Jim Alkire) is anxious to sponsor the Point Breeze Regatta once again. On September 3<sup>rd</sup>, register at the restaurant between 9-10am, with a skipper's meeting at 10am followed by the race at noon. Dinner and awards will follow the at the conclusion of the last race. A modest entry fee will cover everything. AJ has bought a bigger and better trophy on display in the beautiful new bar, just waiting

to have your name engraved on it. The phone number at the restaurant is 508-943-0404. Invite your friends to participate...the more the merrier.

### **Weed Control.**

We are fortunate that the Webster Lake Association has become pro-active in the ongoing war on weeds. The year, they targeted (our) Winter Cove and have treated for the invasive species Eurasian milfoil, and most recently for the white lily pads. Do not expect these plants to ever disappear completely; we can only continue to treat, and try to contain the spread of unwanted aquatic plants. WSA's membership in the Lake Association has formed an important alliance which will pay dividends in the future.

### **Have you ever wanted to own your own boat slip ?**

A new idea has been proposed this year. The membership voted to have a lottery for a boat slip on the far right dock, where the committee boat was formerly tied. The fee to enter would be \$25 per chance, no limit on chances. The winning member would be allowed to keep his or her boat on the dock for the season, and would not give up his mooring/dry sailing slot for the following year. But for that one year, that spot would be given to someone else, with the guarantee of getting it back the next year. Because of the lateness of the season, for the remainder of this year, each chance will be only \$10. Money can be sent to our treasurer, Norm Cloutier at 16 Shepard Rd., Sturbridge, MA 01566. The drawing will be held August 19<sup>th</sup> and the winner notified. This still gives you 2 months to enjoy your slip, so any interested members should mail their checks ASAP. Next year, the money will be due March 15<sup>th</sup>, and the slip can be used starting when the grounds open on April 1<sup>st</sup>. Good Luck !!!

## **2005 Schedule**

August 14<sup>th</sup> Sun 8<sup>th</sup> Point Score Race

August 19<sup>th</sup> Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> Full Moon Sail

August 21<sup>st</sup> Sun 9<sup>th</sup> Point Score Race

August 28<sup>th</sup> Sun Phil Nims Memorial Race

Sept. 2nd	Sat	Point Breeze Regatta
Sept. 4 <sup>th</sup>	Sun	Open/makeup race
Sept. 11 <sup>th</sup>	Sun	Fall Banquet & Meeting
Sept. 18 <sup>th</sup>	Sun	Yankee Challenge Race
Sept. 20 <sup>th</sup>	Tue	4 <sup>th</sup> Full Moon Sail
Sept. 25 <sup>th</sup>	Sun	Open
October 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Sun	Fall Frolics
October 29 <sup>th</sup>	Sat	Closing Work Party
Nov. 30 <sup>th</sup>	Tue	WSA closed for the season

## **The Job Jar**

There are still a few things left to do around the facility.

- Install firehose on new docks.
- Remove fittings from old dock up by gas bin.
- Paint window trim on clubhouse.
- Mowing and weeding.
- Dock maintenance.