



THE COMPASS



www.nockamixonsailclub.org

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The Newsletter
of
The Nockamixon
Sail Club

Volume XLIV

March 2010

The Nockamixon
Sail Club
P.O. Box 133
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Mark your calendars!

**Spring Warm-Up
Dinner and Party!**

**March 13— see
Page 4 for details**

NSC Hosts Jesse Fielding of "Morning Light" Dave Stadler

On January 23rd over 200 people attended our showing of Morning Light at the Sellersville Theatre. This was our third year to host a Mid-Winter Event, and we just seem to be raising the bar every year!

The event was attended by real sailors, sailing-curious, friends, and families. In addition to a strong showing from NSC, we were joined by representatives of other clubs such as Brant Beach Yacht Club, Riverton Sail Club, Marsh Creek Sail Club, Philadelphia Sail Club, Liberty Sail Club and Windward Sail Club. We had at least one person who just happened by the theater to buy tickets for another show and stayed to join us, and we even had a sailor attend from Massachusetts!

The idea was hatched last year on the St. Michael's trip by Diane Paxton as we recovered from an overdose of crab on one of the sail-



Jesse Fielding talks with NSC members at the mid-winter event.

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Fleet 176 Sailor Helps in Haiti Phil Ehlinger



Kelli assisting at an emergency encampment in Haiti

Local Thistle Fleet 176 sailor Kelli Scarlett was deployed to Haiti immediately after the recent earthquake. Kelli is a member of New Jersey Task Force One, which is a special FEMA team that is sent to disaster areas in support of Search and Rescue operations. She is the safety officer for her DMAT (Disaster Medical Assistance Team) which is a medical team of doctors and nurses. Immediately after the earthquake, she was flown with her task force to Atlanta, and then on to Haiti, arriving within 72 hours of the earthquake.

Communication from Kelli was very difficult during her two-week deployment but we did get a positive report that she helped deliver a healthy baby amid the horrors and hardships of the

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Commodore's Comments**George Balas**

First, it is appropriate to take a breath and acknowledge the thorough and well executed guidance given this Club by immediate past Commodore Dan Reasoner, Rear Commodore Craig Tourtellott, Webmaster John Eckert and outgoing Compass Editor Phil Scheetz.

It's difficult to quantify what makes a good leader, but Dan's philosophy of leadership, dedication to our sailing community, and well-honed work ethic has made Nockamixon Sail Club's 2008 and 2009 seasons some of the most successful in the history of the Club. I've inherited an organization that is thriving with existing and new members, on sound financial footing and has coalesced into a great group of friends.

This year, Craig Tourtellott relinquished his duties as Rear Commodore of Racing. While his knowledge and attention to detail will be difficult to replace, I know he will bring inspiration and creativity to his new job as captain of the Portsmouth Fleet.

Wow, what a ride....the early planning for the 2010 sailing season has demonstrated to me the extraordinary range of leadership, creativity and determination available to NSC. Immediately, let me recognize Dave Stadler and Diane Paxton for their outstanding work to bring us not only the Morning Light movie event, but the wonderful opportunity to experience this adventure (called the TransPac) through the eyes of an experienced sailor and movie participant, Jesse Fielding.

I'll take this opportunity to talk about the new team that has been selected to be Fleet Council for 2010. Greg Morrison has assumed the position of Rear Commodore of Racing and immediately went to work firming up our Racing and Cruising calendars for the 2010 season. By the time you read this, the new schedules will be published on the web site. Thanks, Greg.

Mike Noone steps into the newly expanded position of Communications Officer and will be responsible for our three media vehicles: NSCPA, the web site and the Compass. Mike was Membership Secretary last year.

In the capable hands of John Eckert for several years, the web site at www.nockamixonsailclub.org has prospered and blossomed as a real part of the NSC experience. We thank John for his years of service to the club and welcome Glenn Wesley as the new Webmaster. One of the most delightful surprises of the Awards Banquet was the rollout of the re-engineered web site. Building on John's direction, Glenn has raised the bar for any club's web site and we are very lucky to enjoy the fruit of

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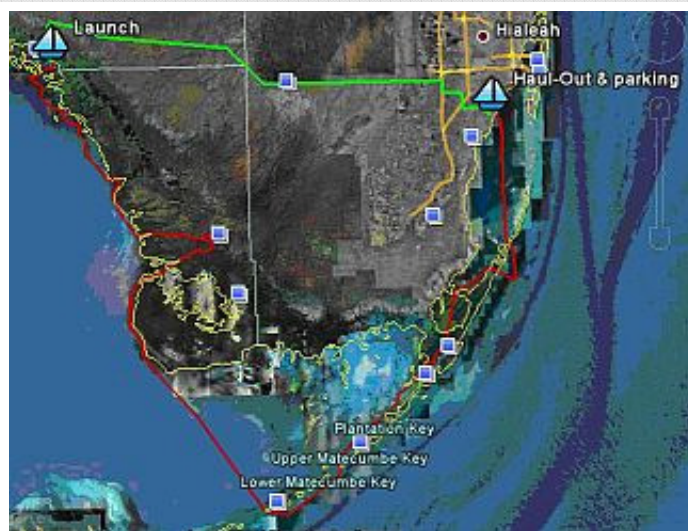
NSC Sailors Circumnavigate the Everglades by Bicycle and Sail

Jim Black and Phil Ehlinger

Many club members are aware of the frequent off-lake cruising and racing adventures that our two similarly "turboed" Santana 2023A's have been doing over the past couple years. To date Ciao Bea (US-1) and/or Shadowfax (US-2) have extensively cruised the remote shoal waters of the upper and lower Chesapeake Bay, Barnagate Bay, as well as raced (and won) a Block Island Race.

But the next planned adventure may be

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From the Rear Commodore of Racing Greg Morrison

When my wife Judy and I first joined the club as racing members in 2006, we knew immediately that we had found our home for sailing and racing our newly purchased Flying Scot. As that first racing season progressed, I also knew that when the time was right for me to get involved in the club my role would relate in some way to our racing program.

Well, here I am only a few years later, proud to serve as Rear Commodore of Racing. I begin this job with a little bit of trepidation mixed with excitement, knowing that it will be a challenging task to even approach the fine job Craig Tourtellott has done for so many years. However, Craig has graciously offered to guide me every step of the way, so I am confident we will continue the fine racing program we have enjoyed in the past.

I don't anticipate any major changes for 2010, since I believe few changes are needed and I will just be learning the job, but if I do see any opportunities for change they will likely center around making things simpler for our Race Committee, and/or promoting participation by those folks who think racing might be fun but are concerned about the rules, marks, and starts. I do ask for your patience as I learn, and welcome any suggestions you may have. I look forward to an exciting year!

Using the New NSC Website Glenn Wesley

Our new web site, still at nockamixonsail-club.org, went live last November. We now have many new features which will help keep you more informed about club activities, happenings, history and goings on.

The site is there for all to view and contribute. As a club member you can initiate and participate in on-line forum discussions, comment on site postings, as well as share your sailing and club experiences on your own blog!

If you have not yet registered now is the time. While there is much you can see on the site without logging in, you don't see it all unless you are registered. Go to the site now and click on "Create new account"! If you need some help let me know.

Here is a list of some features at your new web site:

- Racing Calendar and Results. You can see the latest updates to the racing cal-

endar. Race administrators can post results easily as soon as they are available. The system ties together the racing events with their associated series to make reviewing them easy and complete.

- Club Calendars. As we know of new events they will be added to the site calendar. You will be able to see all events or just the ones of most interest. If events are canceled or postponed you will see it here first.
- Forums. The hot or not so hot topics of the day can be discussed on-line here. When you participate you can decide whether only club members can see your post or the entire Internet.
- Weather. The current and forecast Nockamixon weather is available with one click.

Thistle Fleet Report

It has been several years since I last held a leadership position in the Nockamixon Thistle Fleet. It was not because I was inactive in the sport; on the contrary, it was so I could participate in the national management of the Thistle Class. On October 1, 2009, I completed my one year term as President of the Thistle Class Association National. Prior to that, I spent one year as First Vice President and three years as TCA 3rd VP. Those five years have been educational, informative, and enlightening. What I learned is that it is difficult, if not impossible, to grow a sailboat class from the National Level. You can organize great regattas and design cool programs, but unless the local fleets support them, they will have little or no effect in class growth. What CAN be done at the national level is improve class exposure among the national sailing media outlet, including internet sites, or as I called it, "Sell the Sizzle of the Thistle"! I think we had some success with that, but now I am back serving the local fleet because I strongly believe that class membership MUST GROW AT

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- For Sale. You can see what members are selling and you can sell your junk stuff. You can also see NSC logo apparel, burgees and more.
- FAQ. Frequently Asked Questions are questions many have. Check them out.
- Information. Potential members can learn a great deal about our club from the pages posted here as well as past issue of the Compass and our articles and discussions. When they realize

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Starting our 36th Year
2010 Spring Warm-Up Banquet
March 13th -- 6:30 pm
Quakertown Firehouse Banquet Room
1319 Park Ave, Quakertown PA 18951

The Spring Warm-Up is where we revive the membership after a long winters sleep. Saturday night, the 13th of March at 6:30pm is the big kick off. Come out and party with the best sailors in the Delaware Valley!

Join us for a delicious buffet dinner at the Quakertown Firehouse Banquet Room served by C&C Catering, which also includes an “**Open Bar**” of beer, assorted wines, variety of sodas and juices!

The Best News of all: It's Affordable! Plus, we don't have to cook, bring anything or clean-up - just show up and enjoy! The cost is \$25.00 per person for NSC Racing and Cruising Members; Free for children under 10; \$15 for Young Adults (16 and under), and \$20 for those between 16 to 21; and \$30 for Patrons of NSC and non-members.



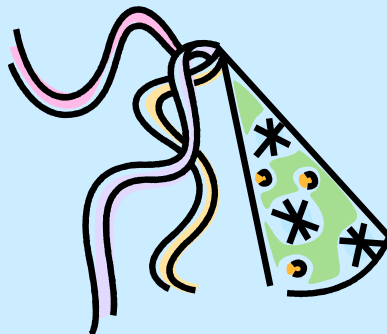
During the evening the Racing and Cruising Fleets will meet separately for their “official/short/informal” meetings to discuss the 2010 Club Calendar and elect Fleet Officers.

This is our club's first social event of the 2010 Sailing Season! The Spring Warm-Up is a “fun” social opportunity for all of our members to reconnect, meet our new members, share our sailing stories, and celebrate our upcoming 2009 Sailing Season!

Email your advance reservation to specprod@pil.net, by **March 7th**. Make your checks **payable to Nockamixon Sail Club** and mail to the address below. **Payment is due before March 10th!**

See you at our 2010 Spring Warm-Up!

Paul Prozzillo
NSC Vice Commodore
Ph 267-261-5475
specprod@pil.net



Mail your RSVP and check to:

Paul Prozzillo
320 Pennington Way
Perkasie Pa 18944

Cruising Fleet Report

Mike Brown

The 2010 Cruising Fleet calendar will soon be available. Based on the fall survey we are making many changes in the cruising fleet events. The biggest change is with introduction of the new "Sail and Learn" programs.

We are scheduling a "Sail and Learn" program on a Saturday or Sunday for every weekend during the sailing season. The time will be 4:30 PM. Members will be encouraged to sail on their own either before or after the "Sail and Learn" program and then meet up for a short presentation on a sailing or seamanship related topic and then socialize afterward. It is hoped that the new "Sail and Learn" programs will help cruisers get to know each other so they can link up on the water with like-minded sailors.

The "Sail and Learn" programs will cover the following subjects: Vessel safety equipment, Mast tuning, Rules of the Road, Knot tying, Sail Controls, How to read tell tales, VHF training, Docking basics, The Wind on Lake Nockamixon, Handling emergencies training, Man Overboard training, Towing basics, Anchoring basics, Introduction to Coastal Navigation, Introduction to Celestial Navigation, and a few other topics. This training will be provided by the Nockamixon Sailing School free of charge to NSC members.

We will continue to offer the popular squirt gun/water canon/bucket fun races, tennis ball fun races, night time and day time raft-ups, moon light sails, Nockamixon Odyssey cruise, Ladies Dam Race and other more popular on-the-water events.

We will also institute a "New Member Orientation" for cruisers in 2010. This presentation will be given in early May and early June to introduce the club's benefits to new members. It is hoped that this will allow new members to get to know others in the club and understand what programs exist in the club that may be of interest to them. The "New Member Orientation" is voluntary.

The Chesapeake Bay bareboat charter trips will be extended in 2010 from two to three days. We will arrive on Thursday and depart on Sunday instead of arriving on Friday and departing on Sunday. The cost of this extra day is very low and it should allow us to choose better destinations and have a more relaxed schedule. We are also planning to offer ASA 104 bareboat certification to qualified members through the Nockamixon Sailing School at a special rate. The two Chesapeake Bay charter boat trips will be August 6-8 and September 10-12.

More information on all of these exciting programs will be available soon.

Solar Panels and Electric Power

Gil Weiss

My wife Carole and I have had a sailboat in a slip at the Nockamixon Marina for the past ten years. During the first four years, I got lots of exercise hauling my heavy 12 volt deep cycle marine battery from home to the parking lot and then down the hill and into the boat. Each time the battery ran down I had to repeat this labor intensive process in reverse. As I got older this got harder so I figured there was a better way.

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Gil and his crew are not the only ones soaking up rays on his boat! His sliding hatch is covered with 2 solar panels.

NSC Web Site

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what a great group we are, potential members can send email directly to us right off the home page.

- Fleet Pages. Each club fleet has their own page easily accessed directly from the home page main menus.
- Articles. Fleet Council and select authors can write articles of general interest to the club. If you want to contribute an article let me know and I will add the ability to your account.
- Blogs. Every member has a blog on NSC.ORG ("blog" is short for web log). Use it to share your sailing and club experiences with the club or the entire Internet. (Please be respectful whenever you make a post.)
- Photo Gallery. We have just added photo galleries to the site. See the recently added winter event photos. This year we plan to have this available for every member to add their sailing photos.
- Sailing News and Podcasts. The site scans the Internet for the latest sailing news and podcasts (A podcast is a recorded Internet program. It can be video or just audio.)

This is just some of the functionality we now access from our computers. You can expect even more as we evolve our new web site.

Catalina 22 Fleet Report

The Catalina 22 fleet has had a relatively busy winter considering we cannot sail. Our fleet closed out the 2009 sailing season by being very active in the haul-out days. We met in October for a business meeting, and to plan out some new activities. Laurine Valenti agreed to serve as fleet librarian and handle our merchandise (patches and burgees). Jim Thompson was named the Catalina 22 Fleet 98 Sailor of the Year at our banquet in December. Rich and Cheryl Brenenborg won it last year but this was our first year with a real trophy, courtesy of our fleet dues and matching funds from the cruising fleet. Our dues also allowed us to pay back all of our fleet start-up costs. We met in February to learn about (and yes even sing) sea shanties with Zak Frey.

We have added a few new members and our mailing list continues to expand. We could really use some volunteers for fleet offices, as most of our existing officers are filling double roles. We are still trying to squeeze in one more event – a trip to Penn's Landing to tour the Gazella – before Spring launch and sailing. Once sailing season hits we will stop meeting and start sailing! We are considering a Catalina 22 cruise/raft-up/picnic in Summer 2010.

The 2010 sailing season is just around the corner! Remember, "the Catalina 22 is a great boat for cruising or racing whether at Lake Nockamixon or the Chesapeake Bay, for day sailing or an overnighter and it can be trailored or moored depending on your needs and interests. In short it is the perfect boat!"

- Dave Stadler

Nockamixon State Park Public Meeting

Time: March 31, 2010 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM
Location: Nockamixon State Park Education Center
Contact: 215-529-7307

Nockamixon State Park will hold its annual public meeting at the Education Center. A brief history of the park, volunteer opportunities, and changes in the park will be discussed. There will also be time for questions and concerns. Please enter through the Marina entrance, turn right at the stop sign and park in Lot 12 to reach the Education Center.

Lake Nockamixon Dam Tours

Note: The very popular dam tours are on the park calendar. If you're interested, sign up now, as places fill very fast.

Flying Scot 163, Fleet of the Year

It's hard being the "backup" Fleet Secretary. Nobody can "out Mike" Mike as far as Fleet 163 goes.

NSC Club Members (who are members of FSSA) were able to read an article about Mike that talked to his heartfelt philosophy of frequent Fleet communication and the role that it plays in building strong ties among members.



Guess what Sport Fans... he's right. Mike is, mostly, always right when it comes to Flying Scots and our Fleet.

Let's do a recap since the Banquet: There was a great lunch at the Spinnerstown Inn between Christmas and New Year with lots of Flying Scots in attendance. Glenn and Dorothy Westley took possession of a new Flying Scot. Mike and Brenda spent the month of January in Key West watching sailboats and I'm freezing my touckus off in Bucks County. So, how's that working out for you sparkey.

- George Balas

Liberty Sail & Canvas Loft

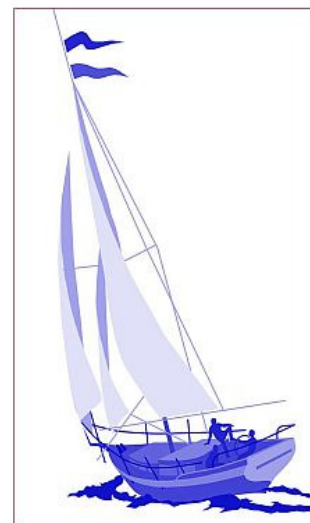
Sailmaker and Canvas Fabricator

New Sails
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Boat Covers

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Everglades

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the most epic yet. In the end of February, we will attempt to circumnavigate the Everglades and the southern tip of Florida by bicycle and sailboat.

The trip begins with us towing the two 23' Santanas from Pennsylvania to the remote lower Gulf Coast island of Chockoloski, Florida. There we will leave the boats at a dock, and drive the trucks and empty trailers back across the Florida peninsula to Miami. From there, we depart by bicycle, riding 85 miles across Florida on the famous Tamiami Trail (US 40) crossing the Everglades and arriving back at the boats late the same day. The lightweight road bikes store well down below in the boats on the quarter berths, and then the sailing part of the trip begins.

We will first sail the area known as the "10,000 islands" which offers some of the most remarkable shoal draft cruising on the Gulf coast. From there, its down the Gulf of Mexico into Everglades National Park. We will then adventure 15 miles inland up the Shark River to Tarpon Bay. This is well into the freshwater Everglades, and the last time I cruised this area we experienced frequent large alligators near the boats as well as amazing bird life. This area is so remote there is no cell service or VHF radio, so we are truly on our own with no way to call for help – the hallmark of a true adventure. The shallow draft of the Santanas, with their swing up centerboards and rudders, make them perfect sailing adventure crafts for this trip.

If we survive and the alligators don't attack the boats, we will sail back down into salt water, down the Gulf, through Florida Bay, and to the Keys. From there we will sail up the Intercoastal Waterway and dip "outside" for a day of snorkling the coral reefs of Penankamp State park. Then its up through Biscayne Bay and back to Miami where the trucks and trailers are waiting. After some partying in Coconut Grove and Miami, we will drive the rigs back to Doylestown. The entire trip will take two weeks and we will provide a post-trip report in the next edition of the Compass, and reports and pics via email when we can get a signal. The NSC Burgees will soon be flying proudly over the warm waters of Southern Florida.



this asset.

Also, this year we see a change in the position of Editor of our in-house organ, the Compass. Being a past editor, I know how difficult and demanding a job it is. Phil Scheetz is the immediate past editor and we thank him for his service while welcoming Ken Van Camp as the new head scribe.

"Popping" Paul Prozzillo throws in the gas can (symbol of the Quartermaster's

office) to put on his party hat and step into the job of Vice Commodore vacated by Diane "Party" Paxton. Diane steps into the position of Membership Secretary and I feel certain we will have an expanding membership number again this year.

Tim Theisen caught Paul's gas can and we talked him into the job of Quartermaster. He's now in charge of the care and feeding of our floating stock; one of the most demanding jobs in the Club. Tim sails a competitive Thistle named **Over Easy**. He's been, shall we say, aided by the Support Boat on several occasions, and I think he wants to be sure it will start and run if he needs it. Continuity is a key ingredient in any organization, and we are lucky to retain several members in key positions on the Council. Marsha Cooper's dedication and technical expertise as our Treasurer is a big building block for Fleet Council,

Commodore

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not only in archival recording but budget forecasting and event planning. While warm breezes and bright sun make our sailing experience pleasurable, Marsha's bean counting and recording make it possible.

Mike Brown continues as Rear Commodore of Cruising and has introduced a daunting calendar of training and fun cruising events for '10. I personally plan to attend my first water gun fight. I'm bringing my grandsons.

Warren Mangan complained at the latest Fleet Council Meeting, that as Park Liaison he not only has to plan our Community Service Projects, he has to lead them. At this time, I'm confirming his suspicions.

The Admiralty is alive and well, with leadership provided by Garry Bonner and members Glenn Wesley, Laurine Valenti, Bill Hall and Dan Reasoner.

Rounding out the Council are the Fleet Captains: Dave Stadler (Catalina 22), Bill Pfansiel (Com-Pac), Diane Paxton (Hunter), Ralph Hall (Mariner), Bill Hall (O'Day) and Steve Carr (Precision Fleet).

This year started off with a big event..... I assure you, it's going to get even better!

GB—Commodore, (in training)



Mariner Fleet Report

No new news, but the Mariner fleet continues to grow 100% per year (from 1 to 2 last year, from 2 to 4 this year!)

- Ralph Hall

From the Editor's Desk...

This is my first issue as the new Compass editor, and I take over this position at a time when communications are rapidly evolving. Some say that newsletters like The Compass are obsolete, as the world wide web continues to expand its influence. NSC, in particular, has greatly improved its web site this year. Few organizations of its size can boast as professional a site with as broad an impact.

Has The Compass outlived its usefulness? Is it time to turn to the web for all of our club news and announcements?

Some would argue that sailing itself is a sport steeped in tradition, that part of its appeal is the lack of dependence on futuristic gadgets. There is something old-fashioned and yet appealing in the classic fight of man against nature - a captain relying only on the wind and his wits to get where he wants to go. (*"Aarr, give me a paper newsletter matey - be durned if I'm goin' to read me news on a Kindle thing."*)

There are others (including myself) who argue for "going green" - save a tree and forget the paper newsletter. (In fact, The Compass is distributed in both paper and electronic forms, and many NSC members now elect to receive The Compass electronically.)

But I think the real value in The Compass is something else: its ability to batch up information into a concise summary of the most important news and announcements, 4 times a year. The most active members of NSC will value the web site for its timeliness. The Compass, on the other hand, is where to turn when you want to make sure you know the most important news that occurred in your club in the past 3 months, and the most important events scheduled in the next 3 months. It is a static view, a snapshot in time, the highlights for the NSC member who can't check the web site every day or even every month.

I look forward to serving as The Compass editor for some time to come, and I hope to do my part to distill as much information as possible into these 10-12 pages as I can. Even if we give up paper distribution completely and just post The Compass on our web site 4 times a year, I think it will still a useful purpose.

- Ken Van Camp

Solar Panel

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In 2004 when we got our ComPac 16 I thought about getting an outboard with an alternator to charge the battery. But after some quick research, I realized that to keep your battery charged, you needed to motor around at least at 1/2 throttle a lot more than sail. Using the motor typically 10-15 minutes a day to get in and out of the marina would not keep the battery charged. Then I looked into solar panels. We didn't use the battery a great deal on our CP16, so one 6 watt panel velcroed to the foredeck worked fine. This was a flexible panel that you can actually walk on. I included a solar charge controller in the system to prevent the panel from reversing the charging process at night and to eliminate any chance of overcharging.

After four good years sailing this boat, we sold it and moved up to a ComPac 19, Suo Gan, which we keep on L dock. On this boat we needed more electrical power as we power a Sirius satellite radio, VHF marine radio, lights and have charging capability for a cell phone and/or other electronic devices. Because of mounting space limitations I decided to use two 5-6 watt flexible panels mounted on the sliding hatch. This made routing the cable easy as I run it between the corner of the sliding top hatch and the vertical hatch boards. During the first year we sailed Suo Gan I velcroed the two panels to the hatch and the wiring was exposed. This was not all that neat but it worked fine. Last winter I decided to make a custom mount using some wood strips and 1/4" marine plywood all epoxied together and finished with Cetol

as shown in the picture.

This two solar panel system kept my battery charged last summer from mid-May through late August. We used the boat every weekend. I did need to pull out and recharge the battery one time. We use the satellite radio all the time we are on board. The solar panels all "daisy chain" together so if I had more space I would add more capacity. This current system works fine and looks neat.

You can buy solar panels from a variety of places including eBay, www.batterystuff.com and www.siliconsolar.com. They come in many sizes and capacity so you can configure a system according to your

mounting space and electrical requirement. I prefer the flexible panels for a small boat. On a larger craft you have more mounting options allowing for larger rigid panels. I found a great little solar charge



controller made by a local company, Morningstar Corporation. I used a 4-5 amp unit they call a Sunguard SG-4. Look online at www.morningstar.corp. You can buy these new on eBay for 24.95.

I hope this article provides some ideas on what can be done to keep your craft "electrified". Be creative, crank up the music and go sailing! Gil

PS/ Incidentally, FM radio is limited to only a few stations since the lake is down in a "hole" and FM is line of site. Sirius radio works great as it is line of site too, but the line is from overhead! Many excellent choices to enjoy.



Nockamixon Sail Club

NSC Apparel

- Caps...Navy or White - *Burgee on Front and "Nockamixon Sail Club" embroidered arched around back opening*
- Women's Sleeveless Polo's in Navy or White - *embroidered logo on left chest*
- Unisex Dri-Mesh Long Sleeve Tee in White - *embroidered logo on left chest*
- More sizes available both Men's & Women's
- Personalization: add your name, boat's name, number or whatever you like...

Great Prices, Great Value
This is not a fundraiser
Show Your NSC Colors!

Please Order Now:
Our Spring Order is to
be Placed Soon for
April Delivery



Any Questions? Contact Dan Reasoner
215-997-7680
dcreasoner@comcast.net



Order Form and Sizing Chart available on <http://www.nockamixonsailclub.org>

Get the latest offerings from the Nockamixon Sail Club!

NSC patches are 3 inch W and 2 inch H
Add an NSC patch to your favorite sailing hat, shirt or jacket.
\$2.00 each or 6 for \$10.00



12"x18" Pennant.
Excellent Quality, Long Lasting.
Built for Outdoor Use and Flapping in the Wind!
\$20.00 each



right



left

Contact Diane Paxton to order: dianejpaxton@yahoo.com

Upcoming Events

Mark your calendars—here are some important dates to keep in mind!

Sat, 03/13/2010 - 6:30pm - 10:30pm - Spring "Warm-Up" Dinner Party

Sun, 05/16/2010 - 10:00am - 6:00pm - The Coves Challenge 2010

Fri, 08/06/2010 - 8:00am - Sun, 08/08/2010 - 8:00pm - Bareboat Chesapeake Charter

Fri, 09/10/2010 - 8:00am - Sun, 09/12/2010 - 8:00pm - Bareboat Chesapeake Charter

Go Green!

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Send an email to the Compass editor (ken_and_me@yahoo.com) and tell him you'd like to GO GREEN!

Thistle Fleet News

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THE FLEET LEVEL FIRST!

As a result, I have decided to re-assume the role of "Fleet Captain" for the Nockamixon Thistle Fleet. There are numerous things I would like to accomplish in the next year or so, but my number one priority is to INCREASE PARTICIPATION in Thistle fleet racing! Our list of members has grown in the last few years and I believe it will continue to grow. Participation levels have been good, but not great. I believe we have the potential to be the most active Thistle fleet on the east coast, which would be quite an accomplishment since we are competing with strong fleets in Annapolis, Westport, and Lake Hopatcong. Our challenge is, WE NEED MORE CREW!!! There are several ways in which I plan to attack this problem. First, I want to invite all members of the Nockamixon Sail Club try out a Thistle by crewing for one of us in our fleet races. Past NSC Commodore, Dan Reasoner, has agreed to take on the roll of "crew coordinator". He will help to recruit and train crew, and plans to organize a crew list. Yes, the Thistle can be a demanding boat (you WILL get a good "cardio" workout), but it can be very rewarding as well. But, you will be impressed by both the responsiveness of the boat and the friendliness of our skippers. As we have done in the past, we plan to hold regular "Thistle Crew University" classes to aid in the training prospective crew for a Thistle. If you want to see what "CrewU" is all about, check out our web site at www.ThistleCrewU.com. Here you can view a 60 minute video of an actual "Crew U" class.

Also, to assist in the crew building efforts, we plan to initiate some "Night Before" events which may include some informal "team rac-

ing" and family "camp-outs" at a local camp ground. Through this new activity, we hope to leverage the relationship we have with some of the local university sailing teams. One of our fleet members (Craig Priniski) is the coach of the Villanova team, and another (Warren Rosen) is an advisor to the Drexel team. We hope that our "Night Before" activities will prompt the college sailors to join us for our fleet races.



The next improvement we will make is to INCREASE THE FUN! Fleet members Peyton Anker and Alexis Zubrowski have agreed to serve as "Social Chairpersons" for the Thistle fleet. Peyton is a chef and Alexis is a party "planner". This great team should greatly improve the "fun factor" at our fleet events. They have been given freedom to plan anything at any time, and have already organized a late winter event to be held on March 27th. Peyton says she plans to "smoke some stuff" at her house (I presume she means meat), and have a "SMOKIN' Hot Fleet Party". All fleet members, as well as crew (or prospective crew) are invited to attend (as long as you RSVP to me).

All in all, I am excited to be back involved with our local Thistle Fleet. It is a great bunch of talented and fun people that I am looking forward to getting to know better. Let's have some fun and do some great things in 2010! How 'bout it??

I am writing this as I am heading out to the Thistle Midwinters West Regatta in San Diego. This is a regatta that Paul Prozzillo and I did last year. It is a beautiful location and always has great sailing. I promise to provide a full report when I get home. This is just one of the awesome regional and national Thistle regattas. I hope more of

us can attend these in the next few years. If you would like to attend some of these but need help doing it, let me know and I will be sure to provide the assistance you need. Cheers!

- Craig Smith



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"I find the great thing in this world is not so much where we stand, as in what direction we are moving: To reach the port of heaven, we must sail sometimes with the wind and sometimes against it, but we must sail, and not drift, nor lie at anchor"

Oliver Wendell Holmes



**One of these is
not like the
others!**



Morning Light

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boats late, late Saturday night. George Balas agreed to stick his neck out on the budget for his first real event as Commodore. Dave Stadler lined up our speaker. Vice Commodore Paul Prozzilo brought his popcorn machine because what's a movie without popcorn. Glenn Wesley modified the website for the event promotion, sign-ups and possible weather cancellation notices. Paul LeMenager and Richard Galbraith finished up the day by bringing a leaf blower and vacuum and they cleaned the entire theatre. And last but not least our guests generously donated toward the movie expenses. The feedback we received after the event was very positive.

We were fortunate to have Jesse Fielding, one of the Morning Light crew, in attendance. Jesse is a great young man and an outstanding sailor. He stopped by on his way back from Key West Race Week to the University of Rhode Island where he is a student and captain of the sailing team. Jesse made some remarks before the movie began and then did a 45 minute question and answer session afterwards. His only request was a real Philly cheese steak sandwich, which a group of about 20 of us accommodated at a local eatery. Jesse enjoyed our club hospitality so much he is going to try to join us for one of our summer events, preferably the ULDB. Think we could auction off his skills to the highest bidder?

Haiti

(Continued from page 1)

Haiti disaster. She reported that she was sleeping on the hard ground, the bugs were bad, and there was no running water or comforts of any kind. As of the date of the writing of this article (January 28th) Kelli was in Atlanta and on her way home. She said she has only eaten military "MRE"s (meals ready to eat) for the past two weeks and her team ran to the nearest restaurant for a real meal as soon as they landed in Atlanta.

Her last deployment was to New Orleans after hurricane

Katrina. In addition to being excellent Thistle crew and a great lady, Kelli is the Code Enforcement Officer and Asst. Fire Marshal in Doylestown Borough. She is also a licensed lawyer, firefighter, Haz-Mat responder, and a college professor. How is that for a diverse skill set! Kelli is also a single mom of two young children, and the sacrifice and hardships she and her family endured to help the people of Haiti makes us very proud. Next time you see Kelli at the lake, let her know how much we all appreciate her work helping the people of Haiti.



A large crowd turned out at the NSC Mid-Winter event.

The Nockamixon Sail Club
P.O. Box 133
Telford, PA 18969

Nockamixon Sail Club Member

,



Reminder: 2010 memberships are due!

Our club continues to enjoy significant growth. We begin 2010 with 157 active sailing family members. The Cruising Fleet has continued to grow to 114 family members, and the Racing Fleets invite everyone to join their growing group of 45 family members. Our club enjoys the support of 6 patron families and 2 honorary family members.

NSC Welcomes New 2010 Members!

New Racing Members:

Jim Thompson renewed as a racer! Flying Scot #570, Catalina 22
Randy & Debbie Blough, has rejoined, Flying Scot 1954
Robert & Wanda Rauch, Flying Scot #4573 Dry slip 128
Tom & Chris (brother) Mellon, Precision 18, Dock F

New Cruising Members:

Joseph & Darlend Cehlar, O'Day 192, Dock F
David & Nancy Comley, looking for a sailboat, NSS ASA Student
Scott & Carol Dempsey, Bauman Piratt "Firerose", NSS ASA Student
Richard Galbraith, has rejoined, Celebrity, Seafarer 23, Dry slip and Dock N
David Jalubiak, Chrysler 13, "Stella" Dock D
Michael & Theresa Mooradd, Precision 21, Dock K
Rana & Shilpa Pal, looking for a sailboat, NSS ASA Student
Herbert Roth, Hunter Sloop, "August Day", Dock J

Please welcome our new members when you see them at the lake or club events!



Slightly off course...

Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson were on a sailing trip. They had gone night sailing and were lying on the deck looking up at the sky. Holmes said, "Watson, look up. What do you see?" "Well, I see thousands of stars." "And what does that mean to you?" "Well, I guess it means we will have another nice day tomorrow. What does it mean to you, Holmes?" "Well, to me, it means someone has stolen our bimini!"