



THE COMPASS



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The Newsletter
of
The Nockamixon
Sail Club

Volume XLV

June 2010

NSC Hosts NJYRA Flying Scot Championship

Mike Noone

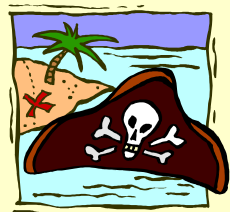
Nockamixon Sail Club was honored when the NJYRA selected our Lake for the 2010 Flying Scot Championships -- and our Lake performed perfectly by providing the ideal "Scot winds" of 10 to 18, with some locally higher puffs, for some great sailing. NSC, and the local Flying Scot Fleet, did a fantastic job of orga-

nizing and conducting the event, with an expert race Committee of Craig Tourtellott, Warren Mangan, and Bill Hall, who set some great courses and took outstanding photos of the action from the water.

The Flying Scot Fleet Officers provided the food and
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Arrr mateys!
The ULDB is
coming soon!
July 17— see Page 4
for details



John Cooke leads the Flying Scot pack at the NJYRA races on Lake Nockamixon June 5th.



Jim Thompson and Laurine Valenti lead the flotilla in *Dreamcatcher*

NSC On Parade

Ken Van Camp

Backed by sunny skies and fair winds, the Nockamixon Sail Club hosted its annual Memorial Day parade on the lake on May 31st. A dozen club boats, bedecked in a colorful array of patriotic flags and ornaments, formed a parade that circled the marina, then motored to the fishing pier and back, to the delight of spectators both on the water and ashore.

"We are one of the few sailing clubs that do this sort of thing," said Frank Savini, a 2-year NSC member who joined the Memorial Day flotilla with his wife Cheri and son Jacob aboard their
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Commodore's Comments**George Balas**

The 2010 Sailing Season is Full and By, and we have had great event days with maximum turnout and mega fun. Starting in April, with the launching of wet slip boats, work party volunteering and Frost Bite racing, NSC has truly lived up to its image as *The Home of Sailing at Lake Nockamixon*. May brought us the start of the "Sail and Learn" educational series and a whole host of sailing related activities; the Club has been in full sail mode with a clear focus to our core goals.

Of particular note is the concerted effort from Portsmouth Fleet Captain, Craig Tourtellott, to cross-pollinate the Racing and Cruising sailors with mixed-fleet distance races (Challenge of the Coves) and round the buoy close quarter racing with the Portsmouth Fleet. Initially, I was skeptical of the concept of Racers and Cruisers mixing it up in close proximity. Guess what; I'm still a little skeptical that Bill Hall or Marsha Cooper on their O'Day 222's can't see me to leeward, because of a deck sweeping Genoa. I'll get over it someday, but you'll never see me fight them for the pin end of the starting line!

Another pleasant surprise has been the popularity of Mike Brown's "Sail and Learn" educational series. Starting with a new members' "Introduction to NSC" and working through fifteen other topics over three months, this will be one of the Club's

most attended events. There are still plenty of topics to be taught and I hope to see more of us out for these 4:30 pm Saturday classes under the Tent.

Of Course, June is upon us and NSC is starting the month off by hosting the New Jersey Yacht Racing Association's Flying Scot championship on the 5th. This is the first time Lake Nockamixon has been honored with that Regatta and by the time you read this, it will be internationally known that I didn't win. But seriously, it is a big win for our lake and our Club to be known in the region for hospitality and promotion of the sport of sailing. It is interesting to note the Nockamixon Thistle Fleet #176 has, over the years, had many regional Thistle events at NSC and is a well-known ambassador for Lake Nockamixon. I encourage all of our Fleets to promote Nockamixon as a sailing destination for sailors from every region of our country.

July is the Jewel In The Crown of summer sailing with the best picnic in Bucks County being hosted by Nockamixon Sail Club: the famous ULDB race, party and picnic. As a Member, you are entitled to join in the celebration starting with a fun race from Marina Point; Up the Lake, Down and Back, ergo "ULDB". We finish with an all-day old-fashioned (but catered) picnic; designed to be family friendly

*(Continued on page 8)***Nockamixon Boats in the Florida Everglades****Phil Elinger**

This past February, while Pennsylvania was being hit with numerous snow storms, two Nockamixon skippers were out in their cold driveways working to commission a pair of Santana 2023A sloops for a trip to warm waters and a 350-mile circumnavigation of South Florida. James Black and this writer, skippers of two similarly modified Santana 2023As, were planning an epic "Sail & Trail" expedition involving single-handing their two boats around the Everglades and crossing the Florida peninsula by bicycle.

The expedition started with several months of planning and boat preparation. The plan was to ride two bicycles from Miami across the everglades to Chockoloskee Island on the lower Gulf Coast, where

the two pre-positioned boats waited. Afterward we would sail south, 20 miles inland into the freshwater Everglades, then back out to salt water and across the shallow archipelago of Florida Bay. From there it was outside the Florida Keys to dive on the coral reefs, and finally back to Miami and the waiting trucks and boat trailers.

But the first challenge was the planned 85 mile bike ride from Miami to Chockoloskee, which required riding out of Miami with its infamous crazy drivers, and then along the Tamiami Trail, a narrow two lane road across the wide and lonesome expanse of the Everglades. The South Florida cyclist internet chat boards all said it was a bad road for bicycles -

(Continued on page 3)

Cruising Fleet Report

Mike Brown

The Sail & Learn events have been well attended. If you have not come to one of these Sail & Learn events then please plan to do so. At each Sail & Learn, a free presentation is given on sailing or seamanship skills, which is followed by a social gathering. People are encouraged to bring their own drinks and a finger food to share. There is a Sail & Learn scheduled on one weekend day for the rest of the normal sailing season. Topics remaining include anchoring skills, how to read tell tales, sail trim, sail controls, introduction to coastal navigation, introduction to celestial navigation, and how to handle emergencies on the Lake.

The second and final introduction for new members will take place on Saturday June 26th. If you would like to get more active with the club then please plan to attend this presentation and learn how to get more out of the club.

Jim Thompson, raft up captain and Jim Flynn have raft up events, moon light sails, and water battles planned starting in late June. Please see the NSC cruising fleet calendar for when these fun events are scheduled.

Happy sailing.

Everglades

(Continued from page 2)

but we had no other route to get across the Florida Peninsula. Using the magic of Google Earth, and the amazing “street view,” I was able to virtually “pre-ride” the entire route from my home computer. This proved invaluable as I determined the road shoulder was wide for most of the route.

We left Doylestown on February 24th and convoyed our two boats to South Florida, taking only a brief 3-hour rest in North Carolina. After cutting across central Florida we arrived at Chockoloskee Island before dawn 20

hours later. Chockoloskee is a small island in the “Ten Thousand Islands” area of South Florida, 20 miles south of Marco Island and a gateway to the Everglades. In the rampant South Florida drug smuggling era of the early 1980s, more than 75% of the island’s local population of 250 was arrested in a

DEA investigation. Since then the island has changed and now is mostly inhabited by retirees and northern “snow birds.”

In the morning we started to rig the boats for



Chockoloskee Island, Florida, the evening after arriving back from Miami by bicycle

launch and were approached by many locals warning us of the ultra-shallow waters and predicting dire consequences if we tried to launch in this area. More than one person said they never had seen a sailboat down here before. We smiled politely, tried to explain shoal draft sailing, and continued to rig the boats.

Catalina 22 Fleet Report

The Catalina 22 fleet continues to be very active and growing. We have experienced a net influx of Catalina 22 boats at the Lake since last summer. We have been helpful to several of those individuals who are either new to the area or new to their boat with information about Catalina 22s, Lake Nockamixon, NSC and our fleet. Our mailing list now comprises over 40 boat owners. Most of our members belong to NSC and many belong to the Catalina 22 National Organization as well – we encourage both memberships but do not require either to be a member of our fleet.

As mentioned in our last article our fleet is now operating in the “black” having repaid our start-up costs. We also have an inventory of merchandise on hand and are building a fleet library. We continue to have relatively few unique fleet activities and choose instead (as the largest fleet) to devote our sailing time and efforts toward helping the club be successful. To that end we helped with the Mid-Winter event and launch activities. We plan to be very active in all Club cruising events this summer. We seem to have some budding interest in racing as well. We are considering a Catalina 22 raft-up event and picnic this summer.

- **Dave Stadler**

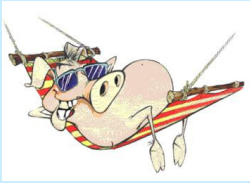
The Santana 2023 was a design built by W.D. Schock from 1992 to 1996. It was designed as a light, trailerable, water-ballasted weekender, having a swing up shoal draft centerboard and rudder. Draft board down is 5’-4” and board-up is only 1’-2”, so the shallow waters of Chockoloskee and the Everglades were no problem.

We departed from Chockoloskee on a trial day-trip to map the narrow, un-marked passes out of the Ten Thousand Islands and into deeper waters of the Gulf, and recorded several GPS tracks through the passes. That evening we returned to Chockoloskee and tied up the boats for the night and ate a big pasta meal on board. “Carb Loading” was the meal plan because the next morning was the big bike ride.

Well before dawn we left the boats tied to the docks, and drove the two trucks and empty boat trailers 85 miles across Florida to Miami. Parking at the Matheson Hammock park and boat ramp on Biscayne Bay in Coral Gables, we put on our riding gear, loaded our backpacks with food and water, and departed by bicycle back across Florida to the waiting boats.

(Continued on page 11)

“Up the Lake, Down and Back”



***Nockamixon Sail Club Annual ULDB Regatta
and Pirate Pig Roast Picnic
Saturday July 17th***



Arrr Mateys and Nockamixon Sail Club members!

Join your fellow members for our largest summer event!

The entire club is invited to participate in our fun family regatta and picnic. Pirate attire, eye patches and wooden legs encouraged!!

The ULDB regatta registration and skipper's meeting will be held at 10 am under the club tents. Greg Morrison, our Rear Commodore of Racing, will review the details of the ULDB regatta which begins on the water at 11 am. The starting line is off of the marina point, sailing west past Swan Cove, (about a mile and a half), around the mark and then back to the finish line. (The Cruising Fleets will start first, followed by the racing fleets!)

After the ULDB regatta, join us under our club tents at 1 pm for a Pirate Pig Roast picnic! We will be serving buffet style, a whole roasted pig, (carver on site), Red Skin Potato Salad, Baked Beans, and Coleslaw prepared by Blooming Glen Catering. Cold bottles of water and soda will also be provided! ***Members are requested to bring an appetizer, or a summer salad or a dessert to share. Over 160 members attended last's year ULDB!***

This event is ***“Free”*** to every ***Racing and Cruising Fleet “family” member!*** The cost for Patrons of NSC and non-members (or non-member crew) is \$10 per person (16 yrs and older), \$5 per non-members (under 16 years), Free for non-member children under 10 years. Since the picnic is catered please let me know how many family members (or non-members) will be attending the picnic by **July 10th!** **RSVP:** paulth3453@yahoo.com

Please bring your lawn chairs, appetites and family to our “fun” ULDB Pirate Picnic Regatta at our beautiful, award winning Lake Nockamixon!

Please let me know if you are able to help; the success of this event relies on our volunteers!! -Paul Prozzillo, Vice Commodore NSC

Racing Fleet Report

Greg Morrison

When the previous issue of The Compass was released we were heavily focused on planning and preparation for the upcoming season. That planning is starting to pay off as the season is well under way with plenty of racing already in the books and a lot more to come. We had a nice turnout for the first half of our Frostbite Series but let's not use that word again for a while since summer temperatures are hopefully here to stay.

It is a bit premature to report results since the Fall races will certainly change things but a number of folks are in good shape including George Balas, Tim Thiesen, Glenn Wesley, Warren Mangan, and Rich Baucom. Our first Invitational Regatta on May 8 was a bit of a bust due to extremely high winds and a capsized by a certain club officer but we did have a number of sailors complete the first and only race. However, our most important Invitational Regatta, the Victor Jaczun on May 22, was very well attended, with 23 boats on the start line. It was nice to see some folks from Marsh Creek taking us up on the "Invitational" aspect of our regatta. Dan Reasoner took top honors but by only one point over a charging Paul Prozzillo. Rounding out the top three was Mike Noone, whose first place in the second race broke a tie in points with Craig Smith. Finally, our "Saturday" and "Sunday" Series racing is well under way with strong turnout so far from all fleets (Flying Scot, Impulse, Portsmouth, and Thistle).

As always teamwork is the key to the success of the racing program and the club in general. In my first year in this role I am constantly pestering Craig Tourtellott with questions and I very much appreciate his patience and continuing guidance. Glenn Wesley has been extremely helpful and quick with website work, and on that note please continue to check the website for the racing calendar, race results, and RC duty schedule. Tim Thiesen has done a great job keeping our boats and gear in order, without which we couldn't even hold our races. The Fleet Captains and officers are also instrumental in keeping things running smoothly. Finally, each day's Race Committee is of pivotal importance in making sure the day is a success. I believe our season is off to a great start and I am confident we'll continue "on the layline" to a great year.

Go Green!

If you're receiving a paper copy of The Compass, consider getting it via email instead. You'll save paper, you'll get it faster, the photos will all be in color, and you'll save dues (about \$2/issue for a printed copy, which adds up to \$8/year).

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

Impulse 21 Fleet Report

We have 6 Impulses in the water on dock M with 2 other still on land.

Our planned Regatta on Memorial Day weekend has been rescheduled, provisionally for September 25th. Please check your calendars.

Wednesday evening sailing always sees an Impulse on the water and often 2 or 3. The ease and simplicity to set up and the great light air performance make these safe little keel boats fun to sail at a moments notice in the busy lives we all seem to have these days.

The Impulse 21 is a mainstay of the Portsmouth fleet and can usually be seen mixing it up at the front of the pack on the race course.

The Impulse 21 fleet racing series is scheduled on every Invitational Regatta day because with our small fleet it is hard to get enough boats out on the same day so this way we are assured good racing in the mixed fleets sailing on these days.

See you on the water.

-Warren Mangan #149 Warp Drive



Highway Marine offers Nockamixon Sail Club members a **10% discount** on parts, accessories and services (discount does not apply to special sale items).

Parts can be ordered through several marine catalogs, less 10% discount, less S/H charges if parts are picked up at Highway Marine.

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Flying Scot Fleet Report

The Flying Scot Fleet #163 at Lake Nockamixon kicked off the 2010 season in fine style when 18 Scot sailors attended the Annual Fleet Meeting held during the NSC Warm-Up in March. The Fleet approved a new Constitution and By-Laws and elected a new Fleet Captain -- Mike Mandell -- to lead the Fleet in 2010. Mike represented the Fleet at the FSSA Midwinter's Championships the following week on Lake Ponchartrain, LA., and gained a 5th place in the Challenger Division -- clearly a great leader for this season! Outgoing Fleet Captain George Balas successfully capped his term in office by conducted an efficient and successful meeting -- and also presented the 2009 Sterling Travel Trophy to Mike and Brenda Noone.

Several Scots participated in the NSC Frostbite Series in April and our intrepid NSC Commodore took the NSC Rear Commodore of Racing, Greg Morrison, for a great sail in "Silver Girl" on an exciting day where the gusts topped 25 !! Many other Fleet members decided to do their R/C duty during this Series so that they could be ready for the Fleet Racing later. Also in April and early May we conducted the annual "Rig-Check Days" where Fleet Members get their boats, rigs, and fittings checked for safety and efficiency before the serious competition begins.

2010 is set to be the biggest year for Flying Scot sailing at Lake Nockamixon. We were chosen as the venue for the 2010 NJYRA Flying Scot Championships (see cover story) and we are celebrating the 8th Annual "Challenge of the Lakes" series with four regattas during the year. The Fleet also plans to have a record number of boats at the Atlantic Coast Championships in September, and we

Mariner Fleet Report

The NSC Mariner Fleet membership holds steady for 2010; the Memorial Day parade and raft-up showed the results of lots of repair, restoration and general TLC on the boats.

The Mariner class has proven to be a reliable, resilient boat that rewards its owners for even small amounts of "care and feeding." New sails, paint, hull repairs and additional amenities are evident in the fleet this season.

The US Mariner Class Association (www.usmariner.org) racing fever continues in 2010 with nearby activity at by fleets on the Delaware River, New Jersey Shore, and up and down the East Coast. The 2010 Annual Regatta will be held this year at Narragansett Yacht Club, New York, on July 30 – August 1. Racing on Long Island Sound promises to present new and greater challenges (including, all will hope, more favorable wind than the 2009 Regatta saw.) Mariner racing is a terrific opportunity to learn how to get every last ounce of performance from your cruising boat, or just to learn new sailing and maintenance skills from our "band of brothers."

Looking forward to seeing our Mariners on the water this season!

-Ralph Hall



will try for a new record at the FSSA Wife-Husband Championships in October. At NSC we have four "Racing Series" planned and several events for the Flying Scot cruising sailors. The annual Blue Angels Cruise to Annapolis was different this year as we sailed in "big" boats in luxurious comfort -- special thanks to former Flying Scot sailors, Bob Weeks and Fred Molden !!

- Mike Noone

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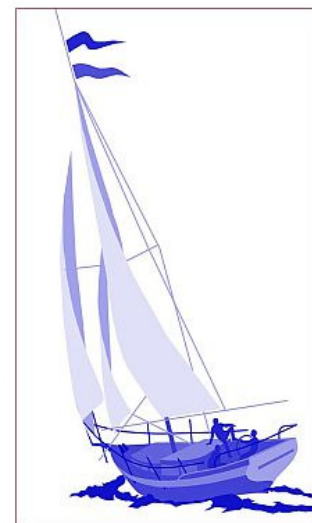
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NSC on Parade

(Continued from page 1)

Aquarius 23 *Mon Cheri*, then later rafted up with a half dozen cruising fleet members.

Included in the NSC parade were a couple of veterans of the U.S. armed services. Charles Wilde, a World War II veteran and member of NSC, joined the parade aboard his Catalina 22 *Happy Daze* with his wife Lennette. Callea Chaffins, an Iraq war veteran and Air Force reservist, joined Mike Brown in the parade aboard his Catalina Capri 24 *Superna*.

Club members are looking forward to the NSC's next big social event, the ULDB (see page 4).

Steelman Triathlon Returns

The last few years, the Lehigh Valley Steelman Triathlon has held a well-organized event at Lake Nockamixon to raise money for the Make-a-Wish Foundation.

On Sunday August 8th, 1,000 athletes from the Delaware Valley and beyond will descend on Lake Nockamixon before the sun rises. It's an amazing sight! The athletes and volunteers begin arriving from 4am to 7am, and the State Police will close down Route 563 from 7am until noon for the safety of the running and biking events.

Nockamixon Sail Club has been a sponsor of the Steelman Triathlon for the last few years. Our club has been asked again to provide a dozen sailboats which will be anchored at assigned locations along the swim race course before 6:30am. Our sailboats, kayak volunteers, and huge orange buoys create a channel to guide the swimmers, and provide them cheers of encouragement. You are also welcome if you have a kayak and want to volunteer to provide assistance to the swimmers. This is a great opportunity to catch a sunrise on the water, extend the growing NSC goodwill that has been spreading to the Nockamixon community, and help a great cause. Heavy rain during last year's race could not dampen the spirits of the racers or the NSC sailing volunteers – everyone in attendance had a great time. The skies are *guaranteed* to be crystal clear for this year's Steelman!

The swim race will begin at 7AM in waves of 100 athletes and will complete by 8:30 to 9:00.

Please contact Ralph Hall at 215-643-3986, or ralphhhall@verizon.net (3 h's in the middle) if you can join the NSC volunteers for this great event.

Commodore's Comments

(Continued from page 2)

and low impact with the possible exception of your waistline. That's the 17th of July starting at 10 am, plan to be there. Last year, on the following day, we were on the front page of the local paper with a color picture. I'm still mad my boat wasn't in the picture.

In August (6th, 7th, 8th) and September (10th, 11th, 12th), Club members are planning extended weekend trips to the Chesapeake where they will charter boats for cruising the Bay and its tributaries. Destinations for previous trips have been Annapolis, Rock Hall and St. Michaels, MD. Space is limited and any member wanting more information should contact Rear Commodore of Cruising Mike Brown at mgba@voicenet.com

On a final note, I call your attention to a newspaper editorial published on June 2nd, 2010 by The Intelligencer, from Doylestown, Bucks County. The title of the piece is "Rough cuts, Our parks are winners. Except at budget time." In the editorial, it is stated that the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration and the National Recreation and Park Association selected Pennsylvania for its biennial award, The 2009 National Gold Medal Award for Excellence in Park and Recreation Management, and Nockamixon as State Park of the Year.

Among other things PA was selected because of its "innovative programming, long-range planning, resource management and environmental stewardship" Some heady stuff for a small lake

between Philly and Allentown.

The thing that made me read this article was that after all the rose pedals were thrown, all the Champaign was uncorked, and we all slapped ourselves on the back, the Commonwealth's administration and legislature rewarded the Park system by slashing its budget by 15% or \$9 million dollars from last year's figure of \$59 million.

I know times are bad for all government agencies, but listen to these facts as reported by the The Intell: The total Commonwealth budget is \$27.8 Billion dollars (that's billion with a large "B"). The park system gets about two tenths of a percent (.2%) of that while park visitation jumped by 13% last year.

The editorial goes on to suggest that parks are targeted for budget cuts because "they don't expect much of a public outcry".

Not much of a public outcry, Hmm..... You thinking what I'm thinking? Call them, write them, e-mail or just outright Twitter 'em until they're crazy!!!

I've posted the editorial on our website for your FYI. Here's where you can find your PA representative or senator. <http://www.house.state.pa.us/> Put in your ZIP code and let them know how much you use Lake Nockamixon.



Thistle Fleet Report

The 2010 season is off to a good start for the Thistle Fleet. To date, we have had 2 fleet race days, good results in the NSC regattas, and a “Smokin’ Hot” fleet party. The party was the kickoff to our 2010 season and was held at the home of Peyton and Adam Ankers. Peyton, our resident Chef, offered to “smoke something really good” for our March 27th party. Thankfully, she had brisket in mind, and she “smoked it” to PERFECTION! The attendees also had the chance to taste Peyton’s two “beverage creations”. The first was the ThaiHito, which was the award winning drink at the “Fleet Cocktail Challenge” held at the 2009 Thistle Nationals. Her other creation is called... well... uh... let’s just call it the “GAC”! (If you wish to know more, check with Peyton, Craig, or Paul, who were all present at its “creation”!!) Needless to say, this party was “awesome” and “memorable”, especially for Peyton!

Our next event was our first fleet race day for the 2010 season, held on May 16th. SEVEN Thistles competed. The weather was good with temperatures in the 70’s and northerly winds in the 5 to 10 knot range with higher gusts. Dan and Marlene Reasoner won the day with 2 firsts and a second place finish. His first race was particularly impressive since he was the *last boat* off the starting line and ended up winning the race. Nice work Dan, but what was up with that start?? Paul Prozzillo ended up in second place for the day, and Peyton and Tim tied for third with Peyton winning the tie breaker. The close racing in the middle of the fleet, and the tight scores, indicate that the competition this season is going to be *fantastic* for Thistle Fleet Racing!

The Thistle fleet had a good turnout for the Victor Jaczun Regatta on May 22nd and almost swept the trophies. Dan Reasoner won the regatta with 2, 5, 1 finishes. Paul Prozzillo finished in second, just one point behind Dan. Craig Smith and Mike Noone tied for third place, but Mike won the tie breaker and took home the trophy. Craig did receive honorable mention for sailing with a “3 generation boat”. His crew was his father (Fred) and daughter (Alicia). There were 5 Thistles that competed out of the 22 total boats. Although Ernie Korchak only finished in 8th place, he *won* race 2 in front of Dan, Paul, Craig and all remaining boats. Good job Ernie!

Our next race day was June 5th and it was another great one for the Thistle Fleet. We had *eleven boats* plan to race, but two of them decided not to sail after they saw the first “monster” gust, which hit just as they were launching their boats. There were more “wicked” gusts later in the day, but the majority of the winds were only around 10 knots from the WSW. It turned out to be a beautiful day for Thistle sailing. In race 1, Fritz Goetz jumped out to a big lead and never gave it up. Dan Reasoner finished in second with Craig Smith edging out Paul Prozzillo for third. Race 2 saw Smith jump out to the lead with Reasoner and Goetz trading spots throughout the race. In the end, Dan edged Fritz for second. Peyton (in the all women boat) finished 4th. The third race saw Craig jump out to a lead again, and for most of the race Dan and Fritz duked it out for second. In the end, Paul Prozzillo snuck past them and took second

place with Fritz winning the battle with Dan for 3rd place.

But the weekend’s activities actually started the night before with the Thistle fleet’s first attempt at “informal team racing”. Five skippers showed up at the lake, but unfortunately, none of the skippers brought crew (the Flyers game was probably the “conflict”). Four boats and 8 people are needed for a team race, so, after some pizza on shore, the 5 skippers jumped in two boats and did some informal match racing. It was a beautiful night for sailing with winds about 5 mph. We finished 5 matches by the time the sun went down. There was no clear winner as we switch off on the skipper duties, but we all learned a lot about match racing. After the racing, a few of us went to the Towhee County Park for camping. Thanks to Craig P, we watched the flyers game on his *iPhone* next to the camp fire.

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Nockamixon State Park Updates

The park completed the extra 30 dry slips and they have all been filled from the waiting list. The 24' wet slips had about 25 turn over this year and they have all been filled this year. The 20' slips are as yet unfilled but they only have spaces left for narrower motorboats. If you want to get into a dry or wet slip be sure to put your name on the list as the turnover rates have gone up significantly in the past couple of years.

The club helped the park this year with a couple of early season projects. We did some important clearing of the shoreline around the point by the launch ramp to remove the inappropriate growth of mainly invasive plant species.

The other project was the moving and re-erecting of the complete roofed sign kiosk from the Sterners Mill Run parking lot to outside the marina building. Lead construction manager Ben Craig and Brownie Brownell 'the bringer of the big toys' should get special mention for their extra effort with this one day project. Check it out, it looks great. The park management was impressed with our work too.

New Pavillions coming to the Park

This fall or winter the park staff will be installing two large 24' x 40' pavilions, one in parking lot #6 and the other near the playground below parking lot #3. These are not in the marina area but will be available for rental.

The pavilions cost about \$10,500 for the kit with an additional ~\$8,000 for concrete, stone, roofing materials, etc. There are no plans for one in the marina area but it might be considered for the future. It will be interesting to see what they are like and how they are used.

Triathlons at Lake

Aug 8th and Sept 11-12, the Marina will have considerable disruption so you may want to plan activities elsewhere. (This is why the Chesapeake bay trips are on these weekends!)

-Warren Mangan, NSC Park Liaison

NSC Hosts NJYRA Flying Scot Championship

(Continued from page 1)

beverages for the event, with our Social Directors, Rob and Lois Wilkinson starting the day with coffee and bagels for the sailors, and ending after racing with a big party of pork roast and hot dogs provided and cooked by our Fleet Captain, Mike Mandell and his crew Pete Pollinger. There were lots of salads, chips and dips, beverages, etc. provided by the rest of the Officers. Nobody left the event hungry -- or thirsty! Because this event was also part of the 8th Annual "Challenge of the Lakes" series, everyone also received an Award for their participation.

The level of competition was enhanced by the participation of the past FSSA Greater New York District Governor, John Cooke, who sailed with his Crew Robin Hoffman, and gave a lesson to the local Fleet in how to sail a Flying Scot efficiently and fast in those conditions. John and Robin easily won the event with scores of 1, 1, 2. The NSC Fleet # 163 belongs to the GNY District, but we rarely get the chance to see the "hot shots" of the District sailing at our Lake.

The best performance from the NSC Fleet was provided by Phil Scheetz and Kristen Downes as they closely chased after John and Robin all day -- and overtook them to win the last race! Phil and Kristen, with scores of 2, 4, 1, were second in the event, and because John Cooke's club is not a member of the NJYRA, Phil and Kristen

are the 2010 NJYRA Flying Scot Champions -- congratulations for some great sailing! This is the second year in a row that an NSC team has won the NJYRA Championships -- Mike and Brenda Noone won in 2009 when the event was also held as part of the "Challenge of the Lakes" series at HSC, NJ. Can we make it three in a row for NSC in 2011 ?? Another NSC skipper, Randy Blough, completed the "top three" in the event sailing with Kris Kinter as Crew and not even using a spinnaker all day! The competition was close, and several finishes were determined by "inches" at the line.

18 boats registered for the event, but in the brisk conditions, several



Winners of the 2010 Flying Scot NJYRA championship at Lake Nockamixon June 5.

boats did not complete the racing -- but most participated in the party afterwards and were able to get some great sailing tips from John Cooke during the social discussion under the NSC Tents. John complimented the local Fleet for its contributions to the FSSA and to local Flying Scot sailing. Our "Fleet of the Year" Award plaque for 2009 - 2010 was displayed under the Club Tents during the event -- and coincidentally, the plate for the 2008 - 2009 year lists Cedar Point Yacht Club where John Cooke is Fleet Captain. We were in good company! We had three boats visiting from HSC, NJ., who also competed in the Challenge of the Lakes part of the event. Several teams also were scored in the Fleet # 163 "Wife-Husband" series, and in the 2010 Saturday Series -- so some of the participating teams in this event got as many as 4 scores for their efforts on a great sailing day at Lake Nockamixon!

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Everglades

(Continued from page 3)

To avoid the worst of Miami city traffic

and drivers, we hopped on a bus with our two bikes for the first 15 miles to get out of the worst of congested urban Miami. This cut the ride down to 70 miles and greatly increased the ride's safety. From there it was out to Kendall Lakes, and onto the famous Tamiami Trail, an historic old two lane highway with a hybrid name derived from "Tampa to Miami." The road was built by digging a ditch next to it and using the fill to raise the road level above the waters of the swampy Everglades. This ditch, which is about 40' wide, is now well overgrown and filled with life, including thousands of birds... and alligators. The riding speed of a bicycle was perfect to view these creatures which were often only feet from the side of the road. We joked that if we were hit by a car, we would be thrown into the canal only to then be eaten by an alligator!

After 6.5 hours of pedaling, we arrived in Everglades City, near Chockoloskee, grabbed a meal and left dock at 9:30pm to catch the high tides out of the shallow passes. Our previous recorded GPS tracks allowed us to leave in the dark moonless night ("I.F.R. sailing"), sail out the un-marked passes, and get well positioned for an early start the next day.

In the morning we sailed 20 miles south along the Gulf coast of the Everglades, and negotiated the tricky unmarked shoals at the mouth of the Harney River where we spent the night. A cold front moved through that evening, and the next day we had a strong and cold northwest breeze enabling us to sail by jib-alone 20 miles up the winding Harney River and to the fresh water of Tarpon Bay. The water depths in the Harney averaged about 7 feet and Tarpon Bay was about the same so navigation was easy. Having sailed in the 'glades more than 25 years, I have learned (sometimes the hard way) that the only time to be free from the vicious mosquitoes is to go into the back country only after a winter cold front, whereby the cold air seems to kill the bugs. We got lucky with the passing cold front

and we can say that we did not see a single mosquito during these two days in the back country of the Everglades.

The next day in Tarpon bay we did some alligator watching and photography, and then sailed out the Shark River back to the salt waters of the Gulf of Mexico. After a night moored to the edges of the mangroves, we returned out to the big waters of the Gulf of Mexico and rounded the southernmost tip of mainland Florida and the sugar white sand beaches of Cape Sable.

Near Cape Sable, is an outpost known as Flamingo. It is run by the National Park Service and has amenities such as a campground, small marina, and a little store. It once had a hotel and restaurant but they were destroyed by two powerful Hurricanes in 2005. We tied up to a slip in Flamingo for ice and showers and planned the crossing of ultra-shallow Florida Bay the following day.

Florida Bay is a large archipelago of small uninhabited islands, or "keys," that are surrounded by very shallow bays and muds flats. It is criss-crossed with narrow passes between the keys and bays that are marked only with stakes stuck in the bottom. We crossed Florida Bay transiting narrow passes with colorful names such as "crocodile dragover" and soon could see the radio towers of Key Largo. This was the first time we had cell phone service in five days and we called home to our wives to assure them we had not been eaten by alligators in the Everglades.

We sailed south to the Snake Creek drawbridge, one of the ways for a sailboat to get under US-1 and out to the reefs on the ocean-side of the keys. After a long sail north up the ocean-side of Key Largo, we anchored for the night near Molasses Reef, our dive destination the next day. The reef has suffered from water pollution and ailments that have devastated the staghorn coral, but it still remains the only coral reef in the continental US and is spectacular nevertheless. We dove on the reef for most of the day. After the reef, it was north to Caesars Creek for the night on the hook.

The next day we raced a big storm north as we tried to get across

Biscayne Bay and to Matheson Hammock Park in Miami where the trucks and trailers waited. We almost made it but got hit with a major squall just as we arrived. We had just completed a 350 mile circumnavigation of the southern tip of Florida over 10 days, by bicycle and sail, so a little rain could not dampen our pride of completion.

The boats were hauled out, decommissioned, and we celebrated a successful circumnavigation. Later that evening we visited the Coconut Grove Sailing Club, and talked our way into the members-only bar using the doctrine of sail club reciprocity (even though NSC is not a "registered" club, G.B.) A night of \$1 gin and tonics and bar hopping in Coconut Grove capped off the trip.

The NSC burgees were proudly flown from both boats during the entire trip and will hopefully return to South Florida next winter for a repeat adventure.

A tiny url link to the trip video with a stereo soundtrack is here: <http://tiny.cc/v5l2e>

(Full video URL: <http://sites.google.com/site/evergladesexpedition2010/home>)

Thistle Fleet Report

(Continued from page 9)

The next "Informal Team Racing/Camp Out" is scheduled for Friday, June 18th, the night before our next fleet race. Hopefully we will get enough boats *and people* to do some team racing. Please plan to come.

The NJ Thistle District Championship is to be held on June 12-13 at Lake Hopatcong. It looks like we may have as many as 6 Nockamixon Thistle teams competing at the event. Results will be posted on the NSC web site shortly after the regatta.

Yes, the Thistle Fleet is off to a great start to the 2010 season. With our recent burst in membership we hope to average over 10 boats on each fleet race day, and with the addition of our "night before" activities, the social scene may be more fun than the racing! Please join us!

- Craig Smith

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

Nockamixon Sail Club Member



Reminder: ULDB will be July 17!

NSC Welcomes New Members (since 2/3/2010)

New Racing Members

Lawrence & Karen Belli Hunter 23.3 Dock M-20
Paul & Jill Miller Compac 16, Sea Fever, Dock E-19
Tom & Barbara Stone, Flying Scot #4961

New Cruising Members

Ryan Bissot is available to crew
Bob & Winnie Blalock rejoined, Catalina Capri 22 #293 Dock I-27
Steve Carr rejoined, Precision 16.5 Dock B-24
Scott & Suzanne Cass rejoined, Celebrity #820, Egregious
Anthony & Lori Craig, Impulse 21, M-19
Michael & Carol Freund rejoined, Precision 23, Cheryl Ann, Dock M-37
Stephen & Holly Hayick, O'Day 192, Jenny Lee, Dock F-45
Eric & Kathy Heck, Compac 19, dock C-41
Jay & Mary-Kate Kimberly, Mirage 20, The Argo, Dock C-48
Hank Kmiecik, Tanzer 28, First Love, moored in the Chesapeake Bay
Tony & Linda Lemisch, looking to purchase a sailboat
James & Jennifer Leonard rejoined, Precision 14.5 #305, Lil' Buddy
John & Sharon Martis, looking to purchase a sailboat
Debra Raffo is available to crew
Jeffery & Sherry Roberts, Precision 15, Dock H-35
Judith & Nadine Smet-Weiss, rejoined, O'Day DaySailor, Andante, Dock-37
James Wambold & Linda Brown, MacGregor 22, NSS ASA students
Mike & Nancy Ziegler, Hunter, Owe's Rest, Dock L-4

PLEASE, welcome all our new members when you see them at the lake and at our club events! -Diane Paxton, Membership Secretary

Slightly Off Course...

An old sea captain was sitting on a bench near the wharf when a young man walked up and sat down. The young man had spiked hair and each spike was a different color.... green, red, orange, blue, and yellow.

After a while the young man noticed that the captain was staring at him.

"What's the matter old timer, never done anything wild in your life?"

The old captain replied, "Got drunk once and married a parrot. I was just wondering if you were my son!"



Mike Brown and students at a recent "Sail and Learn" class at the lake.