

THE WINDWORD

The Newsletter of the Walnut Valley Sailing Club

Website: www.wvsailing.com

MAY 2005

CALENDAR:

- May 1** STEP Catalina 14.2 Orientation
May 7 Centerboard Racing
May 8 Mothers' Day
May 12 Board Meeting
May 14 BBQ and Blessing of the Fleet
May 22 Northwest Caribbean Regatta and Cookout
May 28 Photo Scavenger Hunt
May 30 Memorial Day
June 4 Centerboard Racing
June 18 Bayou Party

Newsletter submissions are to be sent to Marshall Nauck, new editor of the Windword at:

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Ah, spring is in the air and a new sailing season is finally here. Along with this new season, also comes a number of fresh ideas and innovative programs. Among those ideas and programs is a redesigned race program that places an emphasis on having fun and improving your sailing skills. The social committee has put together a great social calendar reflective of the results of the member survey conducted earlier this year. Last but certainly not the least, all the committees chairs are kicking into high gear and are compiling a list of the maintenance and improvement projects scheduled to be accomplished this year.

The first club regatta was held on April 17th and was by all accounts a great success. The winds, while brisk, provided a lively and challenging set of racing conditions. A chili lunch was provided by the Race Committee to round out the day. If you missed this one, consider getting in on the Centerboard Race on May 7th or the next Club Regatta on May 22nd. Competition is one of the best ways to improve your sailing skills.

Coming up on May 14th is the all important first social of the season. The centerpiece of this social is the always-popular BBQ, "Blessing of the Fleet" and recognition of the new members. Also included in this event will be the presentation and distribution of the all-new membership handbook and membership cards. This is a definitely a "must be there" event. Clear your calendar and make it a point to attend.

As mentioned above, the various committee chairs are compiling a list of projects for the coming season. Your participation in these work parties is a win, win situation for you and the club. By contributing your time and talents to the scheduled work parties you can not only earn up to 10 hours of work credit that translates to an offset of up to \$100 to your club dues but also creates a situation in which you can get to know your fellow club members as well as maintains or improves the appearance of your club facilities. The first such work party is the "Club House Cleaning Party" to be held on April 23rd. (How do I know that? I checked the WVSC website calendar.)

Between April 19th and April 21st, the east and west ramps were extended to meet the anticipated boundary line of the new asphalt parking lot that is expected to be laid sometime during the August - September time frame. The ramp extension was designed to improve vehicle traction while launching and pulling boats by eliminating the gravel base between the asphalt and concrete as well as to reduce the wear and tear on the asphalt.

See you at the lake.



Clark Chambers, Commodore

May 14

B-B-Q



& Blessing of the Fleet

6 pm Social

7 pm Dinner

Blessing of the Fleet

Renew your sailing friendships. Meet new members. Pick up your new 2005 Directory and membership card.

Adults: \$8

Kids (10 & under): \$4

Road and Parking Lot to be Paved!

The State has agreed to pave the parking lot and new entrance road at no cost to the club. The road will be paved a width of 12 feet and the parking lot a width of 95 feet. The two entry roads to the dry storage area will not be paved. The project will be scheduled at the end of this sailing season. Discussions with the State have been going on for the last couple of years.

The Board has approved a related project to extend the length of the two boat ramps from where they now end to reach the paved area of the parking lot when it is complete. This improvement will aid further in launching and removing boats and eliminate damage to the drive area. The concrete will be 6" thick with steel mesh. It will be scored like the current concrete on the ramps. This project will be done by the time you read this.

*Building & Grounds Committee
Government Relations Committee*

Learning to Live with Zebra Mussels

Recent surveys indicate that the zebra mussel population continues to grow. It's safe to assume that they are not going away any time soon, and neither are we, so let's figure out a way to co-exist with the little critters.

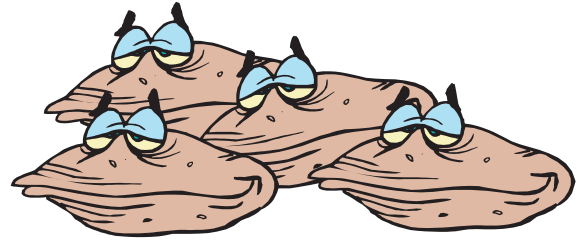
The zeebs, as they are affectionately called, will cluster on and attach to almost any hard surface, including boat hulls which are not treated with a good bottom paint. You may think that you have good bottom paint coverage but those who have pulled their boats recently will tell you otherwise. For swing keel boats, there are those hard to get to recesses where the keel is stored when retracted. The keel itself if not well painted is one of their favorite meeting places. Look for an ablativ type bottom paint, or said another way,

one that sloughs off over time, making it harder for the mussels to attach firmly.

Inlet and outlet ports are another likely spot they will appear. If you have an inboard motor, check the intake water and inline water filter regularly. If you have an outboard motor, raise it and store it completely out of the water when not in use.

Examine your boat carefully when you pull it and before you put it in to make sure you've removed all of the pesky critters.

Also, check around your slip for any accumulation of zeebs on dock structures or things left hanging in the water, which might affect your enjoyment of the slip. Use caution when checking for them, as their sharp shells can cut unprotected hands and fingers.



Be careful when wading into the lake. The zebra mussel shell is razor sharp and can easily and quickly slice open bare feet. Encourage all, particularly children, to wear some type of protective footwear when venturing into the water. A couple of warning signs will be going up soon in our area.

On a brighter note, the water at the lake is becoming crystal clear thanks to the efficient filtration action of the mussels. Of course, this cleaning of the water may be removing food and nutrients needed by fish and other aquatic life. With some common sense, we humans can learn to live with the zeebs. Thanks for your cooperation.

Public Relations Committee

Back-Cracker Regatta Launches WVSC Race Season

The season's first regatta had an uncertain weather forecast with strong winds and even stronger gusts in the outlook. But the weather gods must have been smiling on us because three races were successfully run. Actual winds during the races were between 10 and 18, with the highest observed gust at 21. Wave heights varied with the wind, hitting a maximum height of 2 feet.

The regatta started with a skippers' meeting in which the course was laid out and the weather forecast discussed. A consensus was quickly reached to run 2 races before lunch, as the wind was not expected to build to its highest levels until early afternoon.

Seven boats maneuvered in the start box and a clean start sent them headed for the windward mark of the Olympic course. While finish line honors went to the Sonar, Arnie Kroupa in his Ideal 18 emerged as the winner on corrected time, followed by Mike Wasson in a Catalina 25. Within the Catalina 22 fleet, Don Chism crossed first, followed by Ed Webb.

Race 2 took place immediately afterwards. Again, the start was ruled clean by the committee boat and the racers headed toward the windward mark in freshening breezes. As in race 1, the Sonar crossed the finish line first, but Arnie Kroupa again came out on top of the handicap fleet on corrected time. The Catalina 22s saw Rob Brown cross first followed by Don Chism.

After a break for lunch, the final race was set to get underway. The last start proved to be the most competitive of the day as many cries of "Heading up!" were heard as the

boats approached the line, all of them fighting for position. One witness account claims that a wide-eyed Ed Klima was seen ready to dive off the committee boat when a collision seemed imminent. But the start was ruled clean and the race was on.

Don Chism got his second win of the day among the Catalina fleet, while Brett Warfield et al in the

Sonar claimed both line honors and the win among the handicap fleet. It should be noted

that Arnie Kroupa did not start the third race,

claiming his crew,

Brian Hakala,

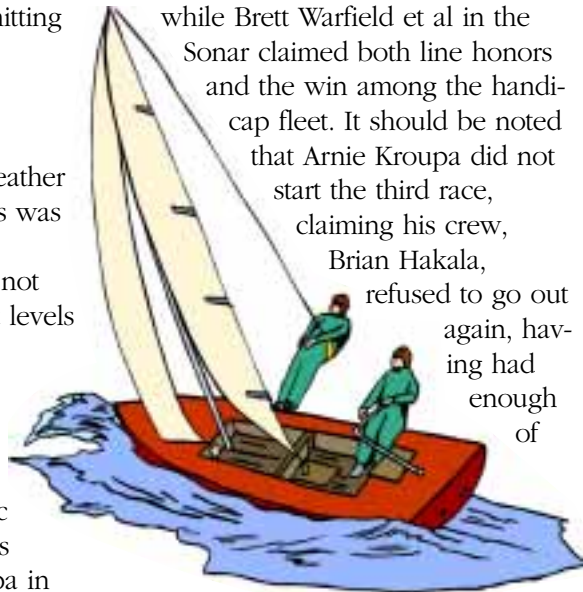
refused to go out

again, hav-

ing had

enough

of



59 degree water splashing him as the boat went through the waves. Does this set up a grudge match between the Ideal 18 and the Sonar at the next regatta? Watch this space for all the details from the May regatta!

The racers and volunteers enjoyed a meal of hot chili while the results were tallied and handicaps applied. Many thanks to Peter Conley who supplied the chili fixings and to Jayne Pierce who turned it all into a satisfying meal.

At the end of the day, Don Chism came out on top of the Catalina 22 fleet, with Rob Brown claiming second and Ed Webb third. In the handicap fleet, the STEP young lions, Brett Warfield, Chris Piszczek, Reid Warfield and Dakota Harms, bested

all comers in their Sonar, followed by new racer Mike Wasson in his Catalina 25 and Pat Boyarski in a Catalina 18. Gene Nold, regatta chair, handed out insulated jugs to the winners. Mike Wasson could not understand why, when he shook his jug in celebration, no spray came out like you see on TV at the end of many racing events.

The race day ended with conversation among the racers and race committee, reviewing the events of the day and exchanging opinions of what moves won or lost races. As expected, post-race recollections produced good-hearted exaggerations of wave heights, heel angles, close brushes with other boats and claims of blindness afflicting the race committee.

Special thanks go to Gene Plehal, who chaired the race committee and set a great course for the day's races. Gene was assisted through the day by Jerry Brady, DeAun Warfield and Ed Klima.

Full race results are available on the club website.

Pat Boyarski, Race Committee

JUNE SOCIAL MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!

Saturday, June 18th

Dinner at the
Walnut Valley SWAMP!!

Celebrate Father's Day or
the Summer Solstice
EARLY & IN STYLE!

Details to follow in the
June WINDWORD.

For info, contact
Kathy Malcom 733-1049.

WALNUT VALLEY SAILING CLUB CAPRI 14.2 RACING SERIES

What boats will be used? The five Capri 14.2's owned by the WVSC-STEP program. In addition, other centerboards are welcome to join the races (however, there will be no handicapping, and boats will race only as one-designs).

When are the races scheduled? On the first Saturday of each month beginning in May, and continuing through September, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. The August 6 date will be used for a centerboard regatta that Ken Rix will be coordinating.

Race Days:

**Saturdays, May 7, June 4,
July 2, and September 3,
at 1:00 p.m.**

Who is eligible? Every club member that has received training on the Capri 14.2's, either through a STEP program, or a training session to be conducted for those interested in racing the Capri 14.2.

**Capri 14.2 Training:
Sunday, May 1, 1:00 p.m.**

How will the racing teams be determined? Each boat needs a skipper and a crew member. Those attending a race session will sign up to crew or skipper; teams will be selected by drawings, and boats randomly assigned.

How will the races work? Races will be in varying formats, but the focus will be on short, fun races, conducted primarily off the WVSC docks, with racing in the cove.

Why is the club sponsoring this type of racing? Several reasons. First, this will be true one

design racing, with no handicapping and everyone racing the same boats. Second, it will mix things up — not just the same boats racing each other every week. Finally, it should be great fun!

What happens after the races? After storing the boats, dinner will be served to all participants. Those interested can participate in an informal discussion of the races, with a focus on improving skills.

Questions? Contact Gary Pierce or Bill Sorensen.

ORIENTATION FOR RACING 14.2'S

The orientation session for those sailors who have not taken the STEP Program or had previously taken the orientation to sail the Catalina 14.2's will be held on Sunday, May 1 from 1 to 4 pm. at the lake. If you are going to participate in the monthly one design races you need to come and get acquainted with these boats.

There is no charge for this orientation and it will allow you to also use the boats at other times. Any questions, call Gary Pierce 686-8823



For Sail... Chrysler 22 "Olde Frothingslosh". This boat is in great shape and sail ready! Sleeps 5. A swing keel with new navy blue paint on the hull and new anti-fouling on the bottom. Equipment includes Main sail, main sail cover, jib, 150 genoa, boom vang, 7.5 hp Merc., anchor, 110 shore power, battery charger, VHF marine band radio, depth sounder, porta potty and trailer with new axle and tires.

\$3500.00. Boat is in slip A12 at Walnut Valley Sailing Club. Contact Mike Wasson @ (cell) 806-8411 or (home) 778-1288

Wooden Windmill. Trailer and sails. \$400. Chrysler Buccaneer. Trailer and sails. \$300. Need: International Fireball and parts. Tony Scuka 316-942-1990.

S2, 7.3(24 ft), 1978 "Pumpkin", good sails, needs a little TLC, 9.5 Yamaha, Trailer... worth \$6500 – must sell... \$4900. Mike 312-491-2800

For Sale: Now is the time to fix up your boat, and save money. Two unopened quarts of Blue Micron CSC Extra Bottom paint \$30.00 each. One used Davis Tiller Tamer with new line 10.00. Lots of new and used lines and hardware, call Steve Wright 316-540-3526 or 253-3684

Santana 25 - Quarter ton boat and trailer \$7000, or with all the extras \$12,000. Great boat for pleasure and racing. Make offer. Boat located at 3416 ? W. University, Wichita, KS. 316-946-0745

WANT TO BUY: Dolphin Senior sailboat (similar to the Sunfish). Call John at (316) 215-1487 or e-mail: dacheez02@yahoo.com

J/24s For Sale. Many great J/24s are available for sale both Regionally and Nationally for very reasonable prices. If you are interested, contact Schoen Fitzgerald at 316-685-9225 or Dan Acridge at 316-687-2471. Call us or stop by the slips, we'd be happy to take you out to test drive one of these great onedesign racers. J/24 "The Ultimate One-Design"



Board Meeting Minutes

WALNUT VALLEY SAILING CLUB
BOARD OF GOVERNOR MEETING
MINUTES SUBJECT TO CORRECTION

APRIL 14, 2005

CALL TO ORDER

Commodore Clark Chambers called the meeting to order at 7pm. Officers and directors present were Clark Chambers,

Pat Boyarski, Marilyn Kroupa, Gene Plehal, James Rix, Deaun Warfield and Mac Carter. Guest was Gene Nold.

SPECIAL REPORT: Gene Nold reviewed the status of the paving of the access drive and parking lot. It does not include the drives to the dry storage area. He reported that the State has scheduled the paving of the access drive (12' wide) and the entire parking lot is in its budget and is scheduled for completion at the end of this sailing season barring any unforeseen event. This improvement will be completed at no cost to the club.

This is a result of the cooperation and relationship our club has with the State and represents a "return" on the investment the club made when the dock was modified to accommodate the draw down of the lake last year.

Gene also presented a proposal to extend the two boat ramps up from the current point to reach the paved area of the parking lot when it is complete. This improvement will aid further in launching and removing boats and eliminate damage to the drive area. The concrete will be 6" thick with steel mesh. It will be scored like the current drive. The bid from Demo Construction is just over \$6,300 excluding taxes. The work will be done in the early part of May so as to take advantage of current pricing. There will be a temporary entry cap from the gravel lot to the concrete until the lot is completed. A motion to approve the expenditure up to \$7,500 was made by Plehal and seconded by Rix. Motion carried. The written bid is in the mail and Nold is to forward it upon receipt to our Treasurer for payment.

CORRECTION AND APPROVAL OF MARCH MINUTES

There were two corrections to the March Minutes. 1) Access codes are to be changed after May 14 when the new Membership Cards are issued with the 2005 Membership Handbooks; 2) Treasurer Kroupa noted there is no 7 month special rate on 10' slips.

There being no further corrections or additions a motion to approve the minutes was made by Kroupa and seconded by Plehal. Motion Carried

TREASURERS REPORT AND NEW MEMBER APPROVAL

Kroupa presented two new members. J. D. and Chris Harms (son Dakota) and Chuck Squires (a previous member). A motion to approve these new members was made by Carter, seconded by Rix. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's Report was discussed. A motion to approve the report was made by Carter and seconded by Warfield. Motion carried.

Commodore Chambers presented the final draft of the 2005 Membership Handbook for approval of the general format only. The board members will have until April 28, 2005 to present technical changes including typing or structure errors to the Kimberly Rix. The Handbook will be ready for distribution on May 14, 2005. Plehal made a motion to approve, seconded by Carter. Motion carried.

Commodore Chambers presented the 2005 membership cards for approval. They will be business card size and have a blue club logo and red year letters. The card will be non laminated and each family will receive two cards. Carter made a motion to approve the membership card. Warfield seconded. Motion carried.

Commodore Chambers requested that all board members contact their respective committee chairs to complete their project lists and member work parties by the May board meeting. The goal is to schedule the work on each project so there will be adequate time for members to schedule their participation for work credit and not overlap the timing of the projects. The work schedules are to be posted in the Windword.

OLD BUSINESS None

NEW BUSINESS None

MEMBER CONCERNS John Carter requested approval to install a hydro hoist. The approval was given via email by the board prior to this meeting.

Mike Wasson requested approval to build slip corners in his slip. He has received the approved plans from Ed Webb. Motion to approve the request by Carter was seconded by Warfield. Motion carried.

Clark Chambers requested approval to anchor (not permanently install) a step to aid in the entry to his boat.

Continued on page 11

Sunday, May 22

NORTH-WEST CARIBBEAN REGATTA

(Also known as El Dorado Lake Fun Regatta)

Separate Fleets for: Keel Hot-shot Racers
Keel Laid-back Racers
Centerboard Hot-shot Racers
Centerboard Laid-back Racers

No entry fee or charges. However, covert tips to the race committee, who also records over earlys & finish times, would not be declined.

10:00 Race Day Meeting in the WVSC Clubhouse

Join us in the clubhouse for a cup of coffee while the "Real Racers" fill us in on the plans for the days races, talk about the courses we may sail, and who will be starting together. All sorts of boring yet useful additional information. First look at the trophies.

First Race After the meeting, about 11:00 AM

Lunch After the First Race

Back to the clubhouse for a bring your own lunch & drinks. Tell lies, sea stories, & heroic tales of failure & success on the course.

2nd Race After Lunch, about 2:00 PM

3rd Race Immediately after 2nd Race

Free dinner on the Beach 5:30 or so

More lies, sea stories, & heroic tales of failure & success on the racecourse.

Questions: Ken Rix

Tech Coordinator & Advisor: Mary Ann Rix

Race Committee: Ken Rix

Food & Humor: Mike Hand

Asst. R.C.: Paul & Janet Malcom



MENU DU JOUR

Provided by Mike Hand & his crew

GRILLED TO PERFECTION HOTDOGS

Your choice: Raw, Burnt, Real Burnt Charcoaled

FULL CONDIMENT BAR

Relish, Ketchup, Mustard, Mustard
Relish, & Chili

"DILLON'S BEST" POTATO SALAD

NONE BETTER STORE-BOUGHT BAKED BEANS

TWINKIES

BRING YOUR OWN FAVORITE BEVERAGE

Every Skipper and Crewmember will receive a trophy, suitable for drinking & then putting on the mantle.

2005 YOUTH RACE CAMP

July 25th through July 28th

This summer the STEP program is going to offer a race camp to the advanced sailor that would like to move into the racing world and really develop their sailing skills.

This will be a four days of racing, including:

- A comprehensive study of the racing rules
- Tactics on the race course
- Developing a strategy for the race
- Go fast techniques for the boat
- Single handed racing and skipper/crew responsibilities in crewed boats
- **FUN-FUN-FUN**

Whether you have been racing or are just beginning, you will find this to be a very in depth course. You will be in class and on the water for five hours each day and will be encouraged to improve daily.

There will be a minimum of 6 students and a maximum of 15. First come first served. So come join us and see what fun racing sailboats can be.

CLASS STRUCTURE

- **Age Prerequisites:** Must be 14 years old or be approved by an Instructor and be an advanced sailor
- **Equipment Requirements:** Participants must have a US Coast Guard approved PFD, sunscreen, hat, and water shoes.
- **Course Content:** All aspects of racing will be taught.
- **Schedule:** 4 continuous days for one week
10am to 4pm, July 25th through July 28th.
- **Cost per Student:** \$25 non-refundable Registration Fee, plus \$65 Class Fee. \$25 additional for non-members.
- **Fee Includes:** USSA Racing Rules book, Jr. Membership (if not a member), Access to Club boats for continuing to develop racing skills by practice and participation in organized Club racing for the balance of the sailing season, drinks furnished, student brings lunch.
- **Class Size:** minimum- 6 maximum 15
- **Boats:** Capri 14.2, Laser, Sabot, Optimist and Sonar
- **Registration and Questions:** Call Gary Pierce (316) 686-8823 or Gene Nold (316) 636-2091

2005 WALNUT VALLEY SAILING CLUB STEP RACING CAMP

Please enclose the non-refundable deposit of \$25 with this application. Mail to:

Name (Last) _____ First _____ Age _____

Street Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ E-Mail address _____

Emergency Contact Person _____ Phone _____

I am currently a

___ Jr. Member ___ Non- member

___ Family Member of WVSC

My sailing experience is in

Capri 14.2 ___ Laser ___ Sabot ___

Optimist ___ Sonar ___

Other _____

WVSC Sailing Program c/o Gary Pierce / 1431 South 127th Street East / Wichita, Kansas 67207

Date _____ Signature _____ Parents Signature
if under 17 years old _____

Walnut Valley Sailors – Greetings from the Chart Room!

When asked to accept the editorial position for this fine publication, I felt somewhat inadequate for the task. However, when our former editor (Bruce) described to me the terrific talent of our layout and publishing person, Vicki, and then went on to portray the submissions as being of the highest possible quality, I could not help but accept; and I'm glad and honored that I did! (And yes, after this first month as editor, I can truly vouch for Bruce's sentiments regarding the caliber of both articles and layout expertise – you folks are making my job a truly simple one.

Fellow sailors, this is your newsletter – your “scuttlebutt”. My desire, in the coming months, is to successfully coerce some of you into sharing your stories; the good, the bad, and yes, the really ugly. This month, you will read about the new racing program, how to get the most of your racing starting position, your opportunity to be involved in some great events, and even what to do about those pesky zeebs. These are articles of interest to all of us. My real hope, in the future, is to add some spice to the roundup by including some of your hard learned lessons, or stories of your great adventures! If you'd like, you can even send me a simple outline describing your story, and I can ghost-write it for you (of course, editorial embellishments are always included in the package!)

My e-mail is mhnauck@sctelcom.net. It will be a pleasure hearing from you!

Fair winds and following seas,

Marshall Nauck, Editor
“Hullabaloo”



Wish List 2005

WVSC would like your help in acquiring the items listed below that will be used at your club. The items need not be new but they do need to be useable.

So look around at work, at your home, crammed in the closets, lost in the garage or stored in the basement. Look high and low to see if you might have any of these items.

Place your name with the item(s) and put them on the cabinet beside the television in the activities center.

Each month we will update our wish list with recognition of who gave what and more items as needed.

For help or more information please contact Gene Plehal at 722-1037.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1.) Old halyard lines | 11.) DVD video disc player |
| 2.) Boat fenders | 12.) Sailing videos |
| 3.) Boat anchors | 13.) Surround sound equipment |
| 4.) Life jackets for youths | 14.) Intercom sound equipment & speakers |
| 5.) Handheld VHF radios | 15.) Weather station equipment |
| 6.) Camcorder/Video camera | 16.) Kitchen tea towels |
| 7.) Big screen TV | 17.) Cloth hot pads |
| 8.) Projection TV | 18.) Kitchen wash cloths |
| 9.) Movie screen 6 feet wide or larger | 19.) Electric coffee maker (12-15 cup) |
| 10.) VHS video tape player | |

BRING A BUDDY AND LEARN TO SAIL 2005

The Walnut Valley Sailing Club/STEP program is offering two youth and adult sailing programs this summer. So get your buddy that would like to sail with you and join us this summer for a fun time on the water. We have a fleet of new Prams, Sabots and Optimists.

Youth Class Structure

Prerequisites: Must be 7-17, have an interest in sailing, and swim 25 yards without a life jacket (PFD) (swimming will be tested).

Equipment Requirements: Participants are required to provide their own life jacket (PFD) US Coast Guard approved, and age-appropriate size), sunscreen, hat, and water shoes.

Course Content: Three levels of sailing instruction, safety, weather, self rescue skills, basic rules of the road, courtesy, and nomenclature. Beginners, Intermediate and Advanced sailing offered.

Schedule: 3 days per week (Mon. Tues. Thurs) for 3 weeks, 10am to 4pm.

2 sessions: 1st session June 13 through June 30
2nd session July 5 through July 21
(1st week will be held Tues, Wed, Thurs)

Cost per Student: \$25 non-refundable Registration Fee, plus \$45 Class Fee for member, \$70 for non-member.

Fee Includes: USSA "Start Sailing Right" instruction manual, use of a boat for the summer, T-shirt and awards. For participants age 16 and over, the fee also includes a Junior Membership to Walnut Valley Sailing Club that begins at the beginning of class and continues for the remainder of the year, if not a member. For participants between the ages of 7 and 15, the fee also includes a Youth Membership to Walnut Valley Sailing Club, which begins at the beginning of class and continues for the remainder of the year, if not a member. Drinks are furnished. Student brings lunch.

Class Size: 20 students per session.

Boats: Capri 14.2, Vanguard Prams, Sabots, Optimists and Sunfish

Adult Class Structure

Prerequisites: must be 18 years or older, have an interest in sailing, and swim 25 yards without a life jacket (PFD). (May be 15-17 years old if accompanied by an adult)

Equipment Requirements: Participants are required to provide their own life jacket (PFD) (US Coast Guard approved, and age-appropriate size), sunscreen hat, and water shoes,

Course Content: Safety, weather, man-overboard skills, boat related skills, boat handling skills, basic rules of the road, and nomenclature. Beginner, intermediate and advanced centerboard and keelboat offered.

Schedule: 3 days per week (Mon. Tues. Thurs.) for 3 weeks, 6 to 9pm

2 sessions: 1st session June 13 through June 30
2nd session: July 5 through July 21
(1st week will be held Tues, Wed, Thurs.)

Class Size: 10 students per session

Cost per Student: \$25 non-refundable Registration Fee, plus \$55 Class Fee for members, \$255 for non-member (Spouse \$80).

Fee Includes: USSA "Start Sailing Right" or "Basic Cruising" instruction manual, instruction, membership to Walnut Valley Sailing Club which begins at the beginning of class and continues for the remainder of the year, if not a member, and use of the training boats for the summer.

Boats: Capri 14.2, keelboats, Sunfish

Registration and Questions: Call Gary Pierce (316) 686-8823 or Gene Nold (316) 636-2091

2005 WALNUT VALLEY SAILING CLUB / STEP SAILING APPLICATION

Name (Last) _____ First _____ Age _____

Street Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ E-Mail address _____

Emergency Contact Person _____ Phone _____

I am currently a
 Jr. Member Non-member
 Family Member of WVSC

My sailing experience is in
Capri 14.2 Laser Sabot
Optimist Sonar
Other _____

Please enclose the non-refundable deposit of \$25 with this application. Mail to:
WVSC Sailing Program c/o Gary Pierce / 1431 South 127th Street East / Wichita, Kansas 67207

Date _____ Signature _____ Parents Signature
if under 17 years old _____

Tips from the Rear:

Getting a good start in large fleet of small boats



Here is a starting strategy that I've picked up over the years that has worked well for me in the Snipe. Getting a good start is paramount in large fleets because 90% of the race is decided on this first windward leg and boats that don't have clear air up the first windward leg will get buried in the fleet.

- 1) Define a game plan for the windward leg. Get a weather forecast to determine if the wind direction is likely to clock one way or another throughout the race. At least 30 minutes before the start, sail up the course and note wind shift oscillations, strengths and wave conditions. Pick the favored side of the windward leg of the course based on these factors. This is your game plan and it will be used in determining where to place yourself on the start line.
- 2) Determine your starting location. When you check in with the Race Committee (on Starboard), sail close hauled by the committee boat and observe the pin end. When the pin end of the line (mark) is perpendicular to your boat, look at which end of the line is closest to you. This is the favored end of the line. Plan on being at this end with three exceptions:
 - a) With large fleets of experienced racers, everyone is going to try to be right at that end so don't shoot for the very end of the line. Plan on being on the line about a 1/3rd of the way towards the favored end. Getting clear air is more important than being the boat at the favored end.
 - b) If you picked the right side of the course for the windward leg (item 1), then stay closer to the committee boat where you'll have an opportunity to clear the Starboard boats on a Port tack. Otherwise, it's too easy to get buried among the Starboard tack boats and lose sight of your game plan. Don't plan on port tacking Starboard boats.
 - c) If the line doesn't have a clear favored end, plan on starting close to the boats you most closely compete with at your level. They're the ones you want to beat at the start.
- 3) Start the pattern - Sail up and down the line and wait for the sequence to begin. Occasionally re-check the line and watch for wind shifts. Often the favored end

will change. Get out of phase with groups of boats that are also in the pattern. Have both skipper and crew set their watches at the preparatory signal to insure at least one gets it.

Also get an idea how long it takes to traverse the line. However, Do not use this knowledge to do a "timed start" (do not divide the remaining time in two to sail away and back to your spot at the start). When you do this, you're already committed with no alternate options and you will likely be late and stuck in heavy traffic.

- 4) Find a hole - Sail past your spot on Port with about a minute and a half to go. Depending on the acceleration of your boat give yourself some extra time to loiter. Find a clearing of boats to tack on to Starboard. This is probably in front of a wall of boats doing a "timed start". If you're going for the committee boat end, be extremely careful boats don't get under you to force you out. Approach it from a close hauled lay line and don't let anyone tack under you.
- 5) Defend your hole - Stretch your hole to leeward by slowing down. This space will give you room to accelerate up to full speed just before the start. Timing here is key because if you create a big hole too early, others will want to take it. Prevent approaching port boats from tacking into your hole by aiming at them and taking away their room to tack. This will force them to go on past you. Entice boats coming up behind you to go to windward of you by sailing down with them. As soon as they get overlapped, take them back up to re-open your hole.
- 6) Accelerate for start - With 5-10 Seconds to go, Sheet in, bear off and accelerate into your hole. Keep your bow slightly out in front of those close to you to make absolute sure you have clear air. Be aware of "line sag". Really big fleets with long start lines will develop a sag in the line where the boats on both ends are closer to the line than those in the middle. You can use this to your advantage and stick way out without being over.

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Board Meeting Minutes (continued)

Motion to approve the step subject to no objection from his neighbor was made by Carter and seconded by Plehal. Motion carried.

Gary Wilson requested permission to remove the scrap lumber from the dry storage area. Commodore Chambers had already given him permission in that it saved the storage area committee from having to remove it at a potential cost to the club.

Jan Brady expressed a concern regarding the risk of injury when wading around the dock areas due to the presence of the mussels. Rix made a motion to install two signs advising waders of the potential risk at the dock areas. Boyarski seconded. Motion carried.

Jan and Jerry Brady requested permission to use the shelter area for a private Adult Sunday School party on August 28, 2005. They will reimburse the club for any parking or docking fees. Carter made a motion to approve the request. Boyarski seconded. Motion carried.

Commodore Chambers announced the next board meeting is to be held Thursday, May 12, 2005 at the office of Marilyn Kroupa at 7pm.

There being no further business, Plehal made a motion to adjourn. Warfield seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Mac Carter, Secretary

Racing Activities Upcoming Events

May 1, Sunday, 1 PM – STEP Catalina 14.2 Orientation: This session will allow you to sail a STEP boat during the centerboard race days. If you have never attended a STEP course or taken the orientation, this session is a requirement before using the STEP boats.

May 7, Saturday, 1 PM – Centerboard Racing: Have you ever tried centerboard racing? The use of STEP Catalina 14.2 boats will make this a pure test of sailing skills.

May 22, Sunday, 10 AM – 2nd Regatta: Warmer water and the good experiences from the first regatta will surely lure a larger fleet of boats to venture out. Come join the fun!

June 4, Saturday, 1 PM – Centerboard Racing: STEP Catalina 14.2 boats provide an even playing field for racing in the cove. This is a great opportunity for beginning racers to gain experience.

June 11, Saturday, 11 AM – Racing Education/Development Session: The final session takes place on the water, giving you a chance to put newly learned skills to work under the guidance of experienced racers.

June 19, Sunday, 10 AM – 3rd Regatta: The third regatta is always a charm. Warm sun, cool water, hot racing and good companionship add up to a great day at the lake.

Gene Nold & Steve Kubin
Racing Committee

Tips from the Rear (continued)

It's better to risk being over the line early than to get run over. If you are over and your bow is slightly ahead of your competitors, odds are good that they are over too and a general recall is coming or they can't identify you because it's difficult for the RC to pick out individual boats that are overlapped. I rarely see an individual recall at a major regatta, but plenty of general recalls. If you find yourself buried under several boats, force the general recall by taking everyone above you (and yourself) way over the line. With the pin completely obscured it makes it difficult for the RC to tell where the pin is and establish who is over.

- 7) Focus on driving - Unless the Right side of the course is extremely favored or you're getting dirty air, stay on Starboard for a while, hike hard, and stay focused

on the jib telltales and the boats in close proximity. This is the critical time where most of the first to last sorting takes place. If you can stay in clear air, and pick good tacks up the first windward leg, you'll round the windward mark in the top 10. For the most part, the rest of the race is simply attacking and defending the boats around you.

Although it's easier said than done; stick to your game plan and tack on the shifts instead of being forced to tack out of phase due to traffic. One of my most memorable moments was at the 2000 Snipe nationals when I got a good start, got to the right side by ducking a couple starboard boats, tacked on an expected shift and crossed the entire fleet.

James Rix, Rear Commodore



P.O. Box 20076
Wichita, KS 67208-1076

Photo Scavenger Hunt Contest

Saturday May 28 10:00 AM

Come join us for our first Photo Scavenger hunt! A list of items around the lake will be provided to all competitors with the challenge to see who can accumulate the most points. Some items will be worth more points, but harder to capture on "film". Some may not even be found.

Pictures will be transferred to a computer to be reviewed by all competitors to determine validity of the subject. This keeps someone from claiming that blurry image or dot is an item on the list!

Entry requirements: Contest is open to all members. Each team will consist of one boat. A digital camera* capable of storing 40 pictures (any resolution) will be required on each competing boat.

* Camera should have a USB computer interface or equivalent method for transferring pictures to a PC. (ie. Compact Flash, San Disk Card reader or direct USB connection).

Questions? Contact James Rix @ 636-9664

