

THE WINDWORD

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The Newsletter of The Walnut Valley Sailing Club

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NOVEMBER 2024

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Photo by Mark Reeves

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**Word From The Commodore:**

Last weekend I was standing in the parking lot at our clubhouse and observed how many empty slips there are now. Just like the leaves that blow off the trees, our boats make their way out of the lake and up to the dry dock area. How I long for one more sailboat race, one more float with friends behind our boat, and one more social at our WVSC clubhouse. Summer has left us and old man winter will slowly be making his way down to El Dorado.



Thanks to everyone who helped preparing our clubhouse and docks for the winter season. Your time and effort is much appreciated. I look forward to seeing all of our club members at our annual meeting at the House Of Schwan on November 16.

Troy

In leau of a sailors quote this month; a couple of lines from one of my favorite sailing songs. Go ahead and sing along sailor, you know the melody.

***Got out of town on a boat, going to southern islands,  
sailing a reach before a following sea.  
She was making for the trades on the outside  
and the downhill run to Papeete.***

Southern Cross - Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young.

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**COMMODORE**

Troy Oberly

**REAR COMMODORE**

Robert Fusco

316-648-0649

Stuart Funk

316-687-9403

620-382-5866

**VICE COMMODORE**

Julie Barth

**BOARD MEMBERS:**

**WEBMASTER**

316-644-4582

James McEwen

Charlie Volk

620-705-1700

316-347-1771

**TREASURER**

Preston Brammer

Michael Shepperd

**NEWSLETTER**

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**EDITOR**

Tedd Blankenship

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316-210-6508

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It's always interesting to learn more about WVSC sailors. You're invited to share a brief story about how you got started sailing etc., along with a photo or two. Thanks to all that have participated so far...next month it could be you.

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**Socials and Sailing Activities:**

**Saturday, November 16th, 6:00 PM**

**The House of Schwan:**

Annual Meeting & Chili Cookoff

Compete with your best chili or

bring a side/dessert. Directions below:

**Thursday, December 5th**

## Christmas Party

at The Point Event Center

Augusta, KS



In case you missed Troy's informative workshop  
on how to get to the

**WVSC Annual Meeting and**

**Chili Cookoff:**

**The House of Schwann**

3636 North Comotara Street

Wichita, KS 67226



or Google it. We'll see you there

Saturday, Nov. 16th. 6:00 PM

Thanks Troy!



Triple Dog Dare You





For now we'll **Triple Dog Dare You** *not* to watch this video.

We'll save the winter windsurfing challenge for after the Christmas Party. Now you know what to ask Santa Claus for Christmas.

In the event of an emergency this is the  
address to provide EMS, First Responders:

Walnut Valley Sailing Club  
4599 N E Boulder Bluff Road  
El Dorado KS 67042



From all of us at Walnut Valley Sailing Club, Happy Birthday Gary!

**Now for a few fun facts:**

Only one of the fine inhabitants of planet earth pictured below can still claim to be a true *spring chicken*. Do you know which one?



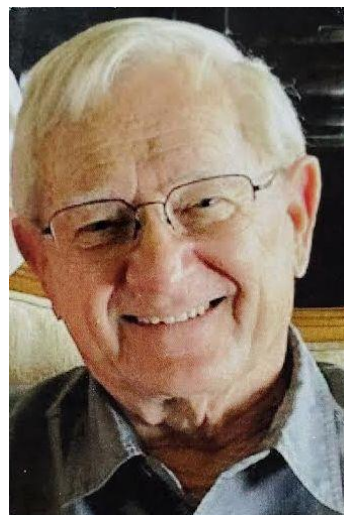
This bristlecone pine is 4875 years old and lives in the Inyo National Forest in the western United States. It's a whopping 54.167 times older than Gary and lost the *spring chicken* title more than a thousand years ago.



Jonathan is an Aldabra Giant Tortoise living today in eastern Africa. At 188 years old, he's more than twice Gary's age. Jonathan can't jibe a spinnaker pole and probably never will. Score one for Gary. No *spring chicken* here...

**Gary Pierce** has been an active member of Walnut Valley Sailing since 1958 - before WVSC was even WVSC. He's sailed all sorts of boats, worked on the America's Cup and cooked eggs at the Wednesday Morning Breakfast for years if not decades. Looks like a spring chicken, acts like a *spring chicken*...

Just imagine Gary, in 90 more years you'll only be 180. Still a *spring chicken* in our books! Congratulations and Happy Birthday.





"What a beautiful boat you have Skipper."

"Why thank you First Mate. I always do my best to keep my boat, my slip and my dry storage area neat and tidy. Thanks for noticing. Have a wonderful day."

Is that your boat, your slip, your dry storage area? Are you a good WVSC neighbor? Let's all practice good WVSC etiquette and keep our sailing club - ship shape! Thanks!



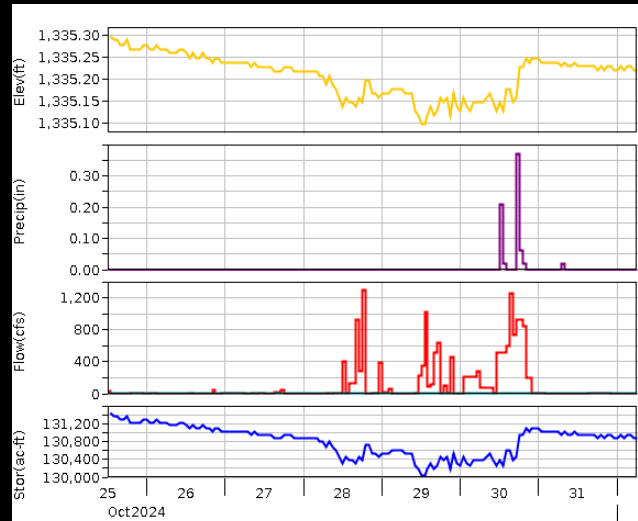


For current lake level data pop the dipstick in the water, load it up,

**then sit back and enjoy the party.**

This link will run all winter so if you don't watch it this month, you can watch it next month. Cheers!

It's not what you think. Prepare to be pleasantly surprised.



### El Dorado Lake Inflow-Outflow Data

CLICK ON THE GRAPH ABOVE

TO VIEW CURRENT DATA

### Tech Tip of the Month...

Water turned off? Short on time, nor'easter blowing in and you need to get your boat pulled and the hull cleaned today! **This** and a bucket of water is all you need sailor. It's quick, efficient and won't wake sailors sleeping in on B Docks.

Ten bucks or you can get one in designer colors for just \$35 more.

It's a rubber squeegee. That's it.



Say goodbye to hull slime. Say Hello to your new best friend. Mr. Squeegee.

Out on the  
Race Course

This Fine Yachting Trophy may not keep your beer cold, but it sure will look chill setting atop the fireplace mantel. Thanks for a great racing season skippers and crew!

Special thanks to Blaine for organizing our racing season and Bart for keeping the Committee Boat afloat and running.

Questions about racing or curious to know more: contact Blaine Van Dam

316 371 4166



[2024 Race Season Synopsis](#)

[by Blaine Van Dam](#)

Our WVSC Racing Fleet grew yet again this season, adding 4 additional boats to our fleet. We raced this season with up to 10 boats crossing the start line. That's a new "high" for our fleet over recent years--including our Race Committee, our average number of crews and boats getting out on the water rose to over 8 boats per race. That's 16-20 sailors racing on a Wed night--an amazing turnout ...

Click on the **2024 Race Season Synopsis** title above for the full report.



After the Races - by Chris Duncan

## WVSC BOG Meeting Minutes

Click on the link below:

[WVSC BOG MTG Minutes](#)

[September 12, 2024](#)

[WVSC BOG Meeting Minutes](#)

[October 10, 2024](#)

**Special thanks to these fine WVSC members that have been nominated by the Walnut Valley Sailing Club nominating committee to serve on the board:**

**Melissa Funk, Bill Allman, Brenda Welch.**

(as per our bylaws)

**Please note the following Proposed Amendment of Calling Committee Bylaw:** It is proposed that the **Calling Committee** name be changed to the **Communications Committee**, and include Text as a way to notify members.

**The Communications Committee** shall email or text the membership to notify them of special activities, meetings and other events of the Club.

The two items listed above will be voted on by WVSC members in good standing at the Annual Meeting on November 16th, 2024.

Meeting Minutes are published each month as they become available. They are also available at [WVSailingclub.com](http://WVSailingclub.com)

**Committees,  
Liaison & Chair**

**Contact information,  
committee duties and**

**other details may be found  
at: [wvsailingclub.com](http://wvsailingclub.com)**



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<b>Committee</b>	<b>Liaison</b>	<b>Chair</b>
Long Range Planning	Julie Barth	Blaine Van Dam
Powerboats	Preston Brammer	Bart Peace
Harbor	James McEwen	Charlie Volk
Activity Center	Blaine Van Dam	Paul Schye
Membership	Ardie Condon	Kate Brammer
Sail Training	Stuart Funk	Stuart Funk
Archivist	Doug Albro	Doug Albro

Public Relations

Doug Albro

Charlie Volk

Finance

Preston Brammer

Greg Rinker

Dry Storage

Troy Oberly

Stuart Funk

Buildings & Grounds

Troy Oberly

Mike Shepperd

Calling/texting

Julie Barth

Julie Barth

Racing Activities

Preston Brammer

Blaine Van Dam

Socials

Julie Barth

Tedd Blankenship

Government Relations

Jim McEwen

Gene Nold

Security

Mike Shepperd

Mike Shepperd

Sailing Activities

Blaine Van Dam

Troy Oberly



Don't Be Shy

We would be delighted

to hear about your latest adventures at the cherry pie eating contest. Actually we're delighted to hear about anything WVSC sailors have been up to lately, sailing, eating pie or navigating your sailing ketch under the low bridge with grace and style. It's all good.



We reserve the right to edit for length and/or relevance. We may hold your submission for future publications or not use it at all. Send information to: [teddblankenship59@gmail.com](mailto:teddblankenship59@gmail.com)  
Photos & short stories always welcome.

Earning work credits at WVSC is easier than navigating your Freedom 28 Ketch under the bridge. Troy and Stuart have been practicing this maneuver for years with... mixed success.

\$10 per hour up to 10 hours. We need you! Work Credit hours directly reduce your annual fees by as much as \$100. Not only that, you'll go home feeling great about pitching in and helping out.

If you can only help out an hour or two here and there, no worries. That's fine.



Hours are flexible, and the dress code is always bow tie and blue blazer casual.

To all of our fine WVSC friends out there working to keep the lights on... thanks.

We appreciate your time and effort.



Your Couch

**Enjoy the Holidays**

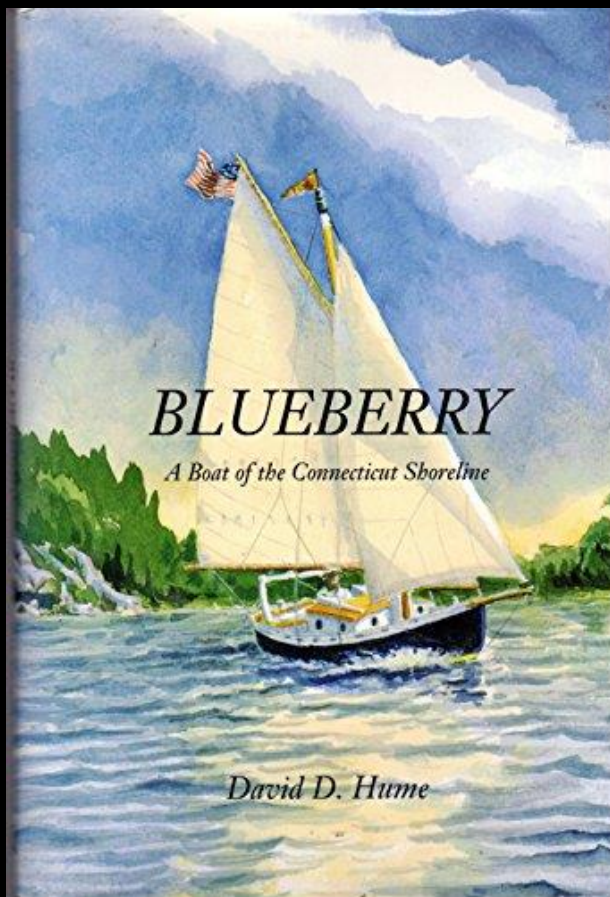
Annual Meeting & Chili Cookoff, Nov. 16th

Christmas Party, Dec. 5th

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JOKE OF THE MONTH





What do you call a pathetically sad  
cranberry on a sailboat?

A blueberry.

Click [here for a link to the book if you're curious.](#)

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Boats & Gear For Sale



### 1980 O'day 23

Shore-lander tandem axle trailer with keel roller launch/retrieve & 1979 7.5 HP Electric Start Mercury Outboard (old but runs well). Sails: Main, Jib, Genoa, Storm Jib. Has shoal draft keel (24" draft with C/B up) In [Yard Space 618](#) at Ninnescah Sailing Association, Cheney Lake

Hull #XDYT0514M79G

\$6000 OBO Photo above

Contact Jim Steck (316-737-9010) or Jason Kaufman (316-393-9691)

### Catalina 22

Boat #8333

Always dry sailed

Rigged for racing - very good racing record



#### SAIL INVENTORY

Two Genoa sails - 1 light air Mylar & 1 heavy air Dacron

Two main sails: Dacron - one with flattening reef in foot

One 110 jib - Dacron

## RIGGING INVENTORY

Mariner speed dial

Richie compass with heel angle

Main sheet post "barney post"

Adjustable backstay, adjustable traveler- crew adjustable location

Carbon fiber whisker pole

Anchor, interior cushions, various extra hardware

Nissan 5hp outboard motor

Trailer has built in extension tongue for easy launching



May be seen in dry storage at WVSC #212

\$6000

Gary Pierce 316-655-8853 [gllpiercewich@cox.net](mailto:gllpiercewich@cox.net)

Gene Nold 316-734-3981 [genenold@att.net](mailto:genenold@att.net)



Gas Can for sale:

Price slashed now only \$9 or best offer...

Would also consider trade for a First-Class round-trip airfare ticket to London, England. Hey, it's a nice gas can.

Contact Tim Miller:

316 992 0514

[timmiller2@cox.net](mailto:timmiller2@cox.net)

It's official. We reciprocate with the

Ninnescah Yacht Club at Cheney

List your boat, your sailing gear or your extension ladder. It's all good. We love extension ladders on boats. You never know when one will come in handy. Just ask Troy or Stuart.

contact: [teddblankenship59@gmail.com](mailto:teddblankenship59@gmail.com) for the Windword

or Angela at Cheney to place your free ad: [editor@ninnescah.org](mailto:editor@ninnescah.org)

Walnut Valley Sailing Club | Walnut Valley Sailing Club Boulder Bluff Road | El Dorado, KS 67042 US

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