

THE WINDWORD

The Newsletter of the Walnut Valley Sailing Club

February 2025



Rooster Topper Worlds 2016 © Simon McIlwaine / www.wavelengthimage.com

Word from

the Commodore:

Greetings sailors,

As I put another log on the fire, I was reminded how much I wish that spring would come early. I've *started* to make my list of sailboat projects that I need to complete this year. Most people wait for a groundhog to tell them that spring is coming. We sailors start searching the internet for either a how-to-fix something on our boats or a good replacement part. I informed my family that this is the year we're going to get new sails, sand all the teak, re-stain the wood, and make new cushions for the salon. The girls give me the big eye roll and tell me to have a good time. I look forward to spring and all my boat projects because that lets me know summer sailing is not far behind. So if you see my girls and their friends working on our boats, give a big thumbs up and remind them that summer will be here before they know it.

Troy



COMMODORE

Troy Oberly

316 648 0649

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316 775 7287

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316 687 9403

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.

Socials and

Sailing Activities:



Team Walnut Valley Sailing Club

Mentally, Physically, Emotionally

We drilled, we practiced, we pushed, we prepared.

Ultimately, We Conquered!

Word on the docks is there may very well be a WVSC Social Event at the Train Depot in El Dorado this month. Keep your ears to the hull and your eyes to the Windex, we'll let you know the minute something pops up officially over the AIS skipper.

Triple Dog Dare You



Five Bucks on the Spot: Teach another sailor how to tie an eye splice in double braid and your favorite WVSC skipper will fork over five bucks on the spot. No questions asked.

"Eye Eye Skipper"

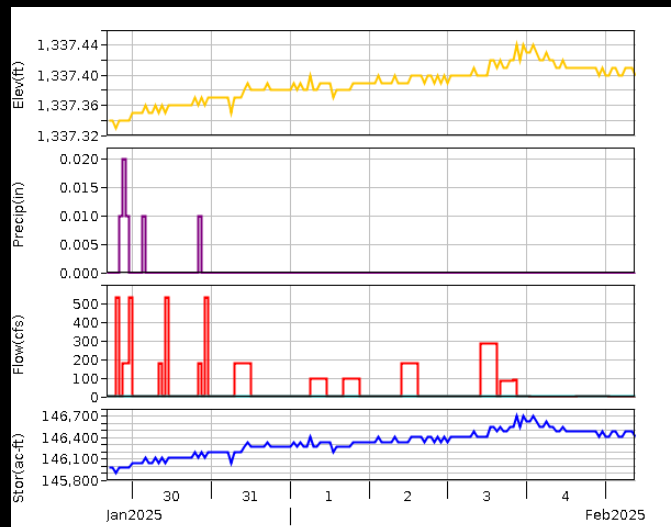
Thank you very much, that will be ten bucks.

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



For all of the latest WVSC chit-chat, hook up with one
of these young ladies at the water cooler. For up to the
minute lake level data, consult the chart at right, or
hook up with... Charlie.



El Dorado Lake Inflow-Outflow Data

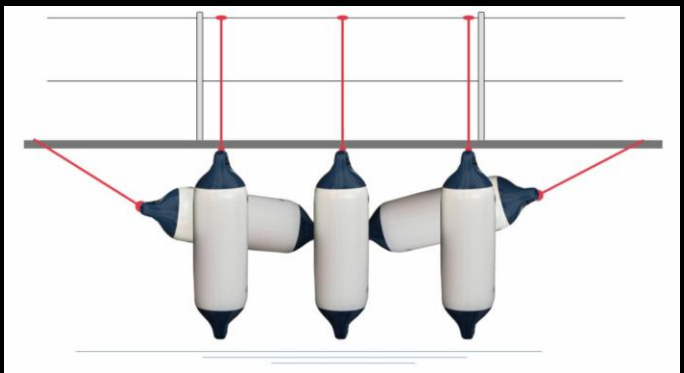
CLICK ON THE GRAPH ABOVE

TO VIEW CURRENT DATA

Tech Tip of the Month...



Rafting up is the term given to berthing alongside another boat (or boats), whether next to piles, a pier, a float or a mooring. It is not an ideal way of berthing because if a boat on the inside of a raft wishes to leave first it causes considerable inconvenience. Another disadvantage to rafting up is that the crews of the boats in the raft will have to cross other boats to get to and from the shore. In a crowded harbor, however there is often no choice. There are certain precautions you should take before rafting up. Try and find out if the harbor limits the number of boats in a raft. If there is someone on board the boat you are rafting up to, ask permission first. You need to make sure that your lines are long enough to secure your bow and stern to the permanent fixing – float, pier, or whatever – if you find yourself either in tidal waters or on the outside of a raft of several boats. Try and avoid a raft where only the inside boat is secured to the pier or piles – such a raft will swing backwards and forwards making your stay uncomfortable. It also helps to minimize swaying motion if you raft up alongside a boat larger than your own. You always need to make sure the masts are staggered; if adjacent, and the boats roll, the rigging may be fouled.



As a matter of common courtesy, always walk forward of the mast when crossing over other boats – it helps preserve privacy.

Excerpted from The Handbook of Sailing

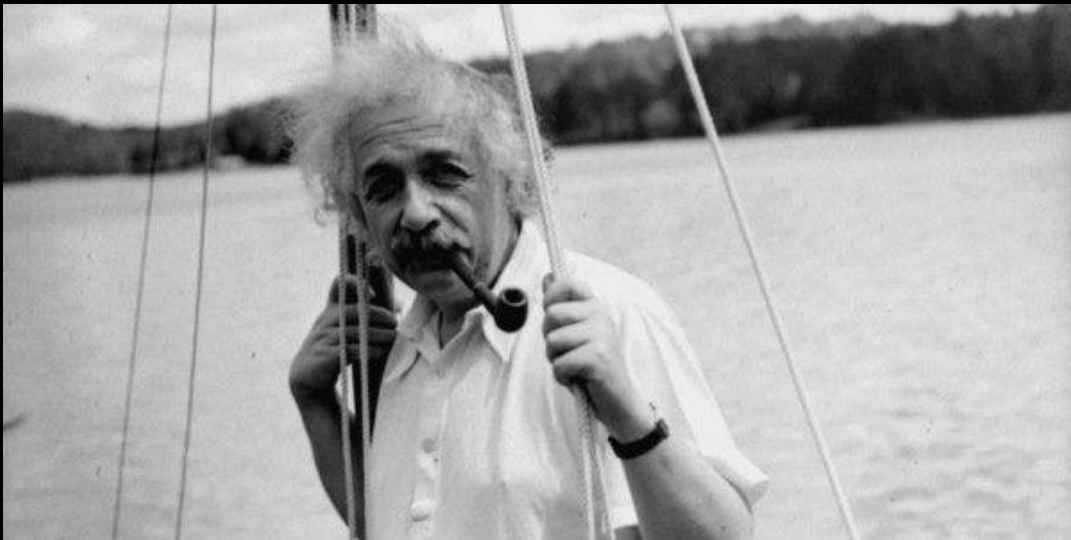
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Photo above right: Fender arrangement for maximized protection whilst rafting up.

For a comprehensive guide to safely rafting up, click on the link below:

[Click here for everything you need to know to RAFT UP safely!](#)

TAKE A CLOSER LOOK



Not many know that Einstein loved to sail. Legend has it that the undisputed genius was arguably the worst sailor of all time.

Albert would run aground and slam into things but apparently he absolutely loved the experience. He sailed a little 17-foot day-sailor called Tinef (German for worthless) for years and later his friends bought him a 23-foot boat for his 50th birthday that he named Tumbler (porpoise in German). Einstein just liked to sail around with no particular intent and if he plowed into a dock, so be it – he was happy.

Through a very stringent process that involved a complicated algorithm, a set of dice, and the hair of a newt, we came up with our list of the 7 most interesting high-profile people who we consider true sailors. We ranked the celebrity sailors using a mathematical break down of the bandwidth of their fame divided by their admitted love and devotion for sailing. It's inarguable.

To see who the other famous celebrity sailors that made the list click on the following link: [Prepare to be surprised! YOU may have made the list!](#)

Out on the Race Course



Racing Meeting

Saturday, February 15th 1:00 PM

Andover Pizza Hut - You're Invited!

No RSVP needed.

All we ask: Show up hungry with a spinnaker bag
full of questions. It's all good. See you there skipper.

Walnut Valley Sailing Club

We're off to a great start in 2025!



After last months photo blitz we didn't have a lot of new material to work with for this month's Windword. Fear not skipper, we've had Bob the Cactus tucked away in our back pocket for weeks. Seems like the perfect time to bring him out now. Meet... Bob the Cactus.

Welcome to WVSC Bob the Cactus!

Only 49 days until SPRING - Bob!





Okay, so we did get *one new photo* this month. Without mentioning any names, let's just say *Bob the Cactus* knows better than to pull a boat in the bone chilling waters of ... winter?

Speaking of *Bob the Cactus*, Bob did have one question for Skipper Troy Oberly - the Commodore.

Where's the Justus in this photo?

Click on the link below:

[WVSC BOG MTG Minutes Dec 11 2024](#)

Meeting Minutes are published each month as available in the Windword.

Minutes are also recorded and available for review at WVSailingclub.com

Committees,

Liaison & Chair

Contact information, committee duties and

other details may be found at: wvsailingclub.com

Information below will be updated as it becomes available.

Committee	Liaison	Chair
Long Range Planning	Troy Obery	Blaine Van Dam
Powerboats	Stuart Funk	Bart Peace
Harbor	James McEwen	Charlie Volk

Activity Center	Blaine Van Dam	Paul Schye
Membership	Brenda Welch	Kate Brammer
Sail Training	Stuart Funk	Stuart Funk
Archivist	Doug Albro	Doug Albro
Public Relations	Doug Albro	Charlie Volk
Finance	Brenda Welch	Greg Rincker
Dry Storage	Troy Oberly	Stuart Funk
Buildings & Grounds	Troy Oberly	Mike Shepperd
Calling/texting	Troy Oberly	Julie Barth
Racing Activities	Blaine Van Dam	Blaine Van Dam
Socials	Troy Oberly	Julie Barth
Government Relations	Blaine Van Dam	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 chocolate chip cookie baking experience. Actually we're delighted to hear about anything WVSC Sailors have been up to lately: singing, dancing or replacing that old keel cable you've neglected for years. No time like now.



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 Photos & short stories are always welcome.

Earning work credits at WVSC

is easier than baking the WVSC BOG a dozen chocolate chip cookies, just ask Dean, Janet, Kate, Kevin Sandy or even...Paul.

\$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, Board Members, Committee Chairs and Liaisons working to keep the lights on... Thanks.

We appreciate your time and effort and we know you're going to enjoy those soft, warm, delicate, chewy chocolate chip cookies fresh out of the oven. You earned them.





Your Couch

Racing Season Welcome and Information Mtg. for All New, Old, Big, Small, Fast, Forgetful, Confused or Slow Racers Meeting!

Saturday, Feb. 15, 1:00 PM

Andover Pizza Hut

You're Invited

Skipper!

JOKE OF THE MONTH



The cost of a galvanized hull
is enough to zinc a ship.

Boats, Gear and a gas can For Sale or trade!



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)

Wanted: Single Handed Mast Raising Unit

Sailor-builders wanted!
Successfully complete one of these mast raising units before spring and earn a \$100 cash bonus, bragging rights and much more.

Taxes, fees, duties, tariffs, labor, lunch service, etc. all negotiable.



Interested Parties Contact:

Tedd Blankenship 316 350 5618

or... call Janet 316 350 5051



Gas Can for sale or trade:

Price slashed now only \$5, or best offer.

Would also consider trade for three ripe bananas and a medium cake pan.

Contact Tim Miller:

316 992 0514

timmiller2@cox.net

It's official. We reciprocate with the

Ninnescah Yacht Club at Cheney

List your boat, your sailing gear or your old cookie sheets. It's all good. We love fresh baked cookies at WVSC. Happy New Year Sailors and don't forget Valentines Day is just around the cove!

contact: teddblackenship59@gmail.com for the Windword

or Angela at Cheney to place your free ad: editor@ninnescah.org

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

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