



Commodore's Corner

IT IS SPRING!! The days are getting longer!! And it is less than 6 weeks before our first race. But before you get too excited... Once you have a boat assignment, make sure that you get with your skipper to see if the boat owners need any help getting their boats race-ready. This is a good time to learn about the boat and begin to work together as a team.

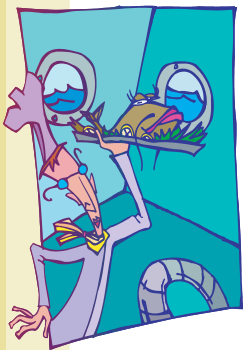
The May meeting will have some incredible educational breakout sessions; I want to see them ALL!! Can't write anymore — I'm in the middle of bottom-painting and waxing the boat. Can't wait to see you guys at the next meeting!



Baby Pags, all snuggly, dreaming about winning that FIRST RACE!!

*- Beth Paganini
NCWSA Commodore*

After-Race Food - Important Change



The 2008 Board has decided that we will NOT be bringing food dishes to share after the races this season.

Instead, we will be showing our support to EYC by purchasing food directly from EYC, as they will be extending their full menu to us as long as we order by 9:30 p.m.

During the first two races, both the Grill and Bar will offer food service. If this is profitable to EYC, the Grill and Bar will remain open. If it is not profitable, the Grill will close,

but the Bar will be accessible for the remainder of the race season. Grill service will only accept cash or EYC accounts, but the Bar will accept credit/debit cards as well as cash and EYC accounts.

Orders must be made in person, no phone-in or pre-race orders will be accepted.

Let's give back to the organization that supports NCWSA so generously. If you have any questions please see Joani or I at the upcoming General Meeting on March 6.

*- Karen Lunka & Joani Huber
Social Co-Chairs*

NCWSA Meetings

7:30 First Tuesday of the Month

MAY 6TH MEETING

Breakout Sessions:

- Race Management
- Advanced Racing

BEGINNER'S SERIES

3 CLASS SERIES: (\$20 for series)

Saturdays May 10, 17, 31

See page 2 for details



Want to Join EYC?

If you enjoy coming down to the club and sailing, you might consider joining EYC.

You don't own a boat, but want to be a part of the club? EYC offers Social Memberships. New Social members who pay their \$400 initiation receive a **\$400.00 Bar & Galley credit**...Don't think of it as an initiation, think of it as paying your tab in advance!



For details and more information, visit www.eycweb.com and click on the Membership Incentives link.

Education Topics - Schedule for 2008

May 6 **General Membership Meeting**

Breakout Sessions:

Race Management – See what happens behind the scenes of racing. We will cover starting sequences, signal flags, how to choose a course, etc.

Advanced Racing – we will cover heavy-weather /sailing tactics, sail trim, crew management, communication etc.

May **Beginner's Series** - (3 Session series) **Saturdays • May 10 • 17 • 31, 2008** **9am - 11am**

\$20 for the series. Includes Book.

All sessions will be held at EYC
from 9am – 11am.



This is a great opportunity to get your non-sailing friends involved, see what sailing is all about and join us for a summer of fun at NCWSA.

Cleveland Race Week

Cleveland Race Week (CRW) is just around the corner! The event will be held Saturday, June 21-29. EYC members and friends, like NCWSA, are a huge part of its success each year with their generous donation of volunteered time. We hope that you will again consider volunteering to help on-shore or out-on-the-water. Whether it's serving on a RC boat, pouring beer, or selling CRW merchandise — many opportunities exist to participate in this fabulous event. Four hours (or more) of volunteer time gets you a wristband which allows access to all CRW social activities. **Those completing eight hours or more will also receive a CRW T-shirt.**

NEW THIS YEAR — volunteers can register on the Cleveland Race Week website. Simply log-on to Edgewater's web site (www.eycweb.com) and click on the Cleveland Race Week box. It's a one-stop-shop for racing registrants, volunteers, and sponsors.

For volunteer information, contact our Volunteer Chair Katrina Posedel at katrina.posedel@sbcglobal.net or Event Co-chair Mary Dodge at mdodge@parker.com. Volunteering during Cleveland Race Week is a great way to meet sailing people and get involved in the region's largest regatta.



NCWSA Racing Series Schedule Summer 2008

JUNE 3 (*practice race*), **17** • **JULY 1, 15, 29** • **AUGUST 12, 26**

AUGUST 5 – Possible Make-up Race or Fun Theme Race TBA

SEPTEMBER 6 – Annual NCWSA Women's Regatta

Meet the Fleet night was a huge success. We had a great turnout with many familiar faces in attendance along with a host of new members. Along with pizza and beer, there was plenty of excitement to go around!

We have a great line-up of boats racing this summer. We have 5 Ensigns, 5 J22's, 3 Dragons, 5 JAM and 5 PHRF boats, all confirmed to race this season. Add to that our cruising boats, and we are sure to have fun this summer! We are still waiting to hear from a few more potential boats. Fleet captains are listed below.

PHRF (Pat Mahoney), **JAM** (Linda Cutler), **ENSIGN** (Nancy VanGinkel), **J22** (Suzie Wulff),
Dragon (Elisabeth Eitel)

Important Note to Skippers: If you haven't already, please organize your crew lists and get them to us! Also let us know if you need crew. We have several members that are looking for placement on boats.

- Kelly Kimble & Cindi Engbert, Race Chairs

NCWSA Survey Results

THANK YOU to all who submitted a response to our survey. The board has pored over the results and, in some cases, your answers altered the course we were following, such as how NCWSA presents educational topics, orientation of new members, etc. It is our intention to continue to elevate the status of the organization and further enhance our Mission, which is to encourage women to become more actively involved in sailboat racing through regattas and clinics, and to create a spirit of good fellowship among members.

SURVEY RESULTS SUMMARY:

We received 25 survey responses, with the majority received after the January newsletter. • Respondents represented a great cross-section of the length of time they were members. • Most joined to sail and meet new people. • One respondent stated she left due to the less competitive nature of the races.

BEST THING ABOUT NCWSA: Not one best overall answer, but liked:

- Alternate Schedules
- Well Organized
- Get to sail
- Giving women courage to sail
- All levels participate
- My Crew
- What a deal!
- Friendships

WORST THING ABOUT NCWSA: MORE SAILING – LESS EATING! Also:

- Communication
- Races too short
- Intro to new members
- Too Competitive
- Not knowing half the members
- and a number answered: No Worst Thing

The majority of respondents DO RACE

LIKES:

- Camaraderie
- Learning exp on/off water
- Opportunity to race
- Competition
- Coaches w/ exp.
- ALL

DISLIKES:

- Lack of Recap
 - More rules of racing
 - Not enough races
 - Explain boat rankings
 - Cleveland Weather
 - Put on a boat with all beginners
 - Lack of understanding of race-committee boat
- Majority were interested in extra on-the-water clinics on a TUESDAY with the feeling that a majority of coaches/owner probably would be willing to participate.
- Most were interested in half-hour post-racing debriefing sessions.
- Most state that they do NOT sail outside of the NCWSA program, but would like help in making contacts with boat owners who do race outside of NCWSA.
- Most folks did not answer the questions for: • Why they are not currently racing • How many meetings they attended each year • Why they did not attend meetings.

EDUCATION TOPICS: *(In order of interest)*

1. Rules of Racing
2. On-Water Clinics
3. Beginner Racing
4. Advanced Racing
5. Beginner Sailing
6. National Women's sailing

OTHER TOPICS:

- Weather
- Docking
- Talks by Rolex winners

CHANGES TO NCWSA:

- Outreach to new members
- No food after racing
- Encourage use of club (EYC)
- Breakout sessions
- Mix-up the group



We have a great opportunity to get a group discount on *Speed & Smarts*, a fantastic racing publication by David Dellenbaugh.

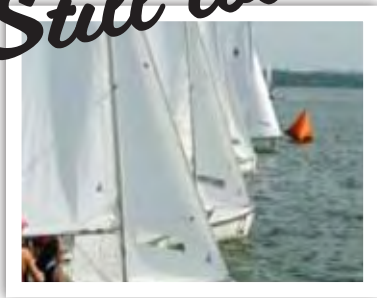
Published 6 times a year, this racing magazine has lots of practical and useful hands-on information to help you understand the rules, improve your performance, and help you win more races. Each issue is packed with what you need to know, with no space used up with advertising. Dave is so sure you will be satisfied with it that he offers a money-back guarantee.

Visit his website <http://www.speedandsmarts.com/about/> and contact me if you are interested in getting in on the discount: **DISCOUNT??** you say? Did I forget to mention that with 10 subscribers, we get a 20% discount?!

Contact me as soon as possible so we can get our order in and processed!

- Pat Metzler,
 NCWSA Secretary

Still looking...



Regatta 2008 Series - Can you Plan a Party?

If so, NCWSA is looking for you!

What does Regatta mean??

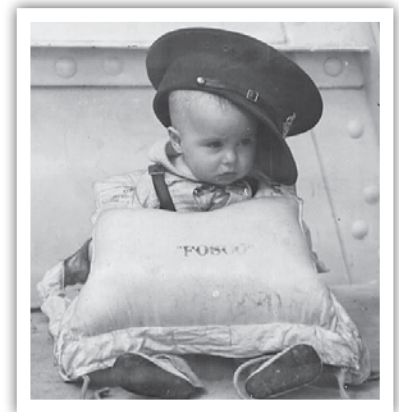
A regatta is a term used to describe a series of boat races. A regatta often includes social and promotional activities which surround the racing event.

Although regattas are typically amateur competitions, they are usually very highly organized, formally structured events, with complex rules precisely describing the schedule and procedures of the event. Regattas may be organized as championships for a particular area or type of boat, but are often held just for the joy of competition, camaraderie, and general promotion of the sport.

So what does that mean to me??

Have you ever wanted to see what it was like putting together such an event?? **We are looking for a few good women to help to put on this event for NCWSA.** This would entail soliciting for sponsors, marketing the event, orchestrating the activities such as food, drinks, merchandise, etc.

The NCWSA board would be at your disposal for any assistance you would require. This would be a great opportunity to try your hand at the helm of the organization!!



Please help baby Pags find someone to run the NCWSA Regatta for 2008

- Beth Paganini, NCWSA Commodore



A Night at the Races!



The **Edgewater Youth Sailing Foundation** invites you to “A Night at the Races”, on May 3, 2008. It is our Annual Fundraiser, intended to grow our “fund” and raise money for kids!

If you have ever been to a Night at the Races, you know that it’s loads of fun, especially with a group! Just like a night at the track... but on video!

Consider coming down and encouraging your fleet members to get together for a fun night!

We have 6 Races. You pay \$25 and get \$25 of “Betting Bucks”. At the end of the evening, you take all of the Betting Bucks that you have won and put them in the Chinese Auction (we have some GREAT Chinese Auction items!) It’s like buying \$25 worth of Raffle Tickets and turning it into several hours of fun!

You can even “own” horses in the event. Horse Ownership is \$20 and the owners will be listed in the race program. The winning owner in each race will get a great prize!

If you’d like, you can advertise your business or boat in the program for \$50. Ads are due by May 1). And everything... Sponsorship, Ads, and Participation Fees are TAX DEDUCTIBLE!!!

Call or email me with questions connieaguero@sbcglobal.net or visit www.EYSF.org for more info.

Connie Aguero
EYSF President



Field Trip!

Have you ever wanted to see the step-by-step process of boat building? Now is your chance!

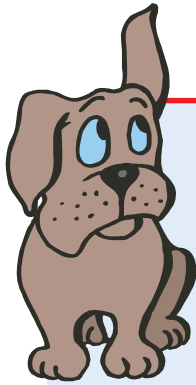
Tartan Yachts will be opening their doors to NCWSA for a one-hour tour at their Fairport Harbor facility on a Saturday morning in June (June date TBD).

We will have more information at the May meeting and at www.ncwsa.net.

Contact Marianne Eggett at marianne.eggett@mainline.com for details.



Tartan factory photo © SAIL Magazine, May 2005



What did you say?

Try these communication tips when you want to have good onboard communication. It's important to think about not only *what* you say, but *how* to say it.

BEFORE YOU GET TO THE STARTING LINE,

make sure you talk with the rest of the crew about how much communication you want during the race. Some skippers like to hear a lot of information flowing around the boat. However, some helmspeople like a very quiet boat and want to hear only stuff that's absolutely essential.

BEFORE THE START, be sure everyone knows and is comfortable with their role and position on the boat. The sail trimmers should communicate with the skipper about the shape of the sail, the foredecker or mast person can communicate about puffs, waves and performance relative to other boats.

SPEAK CLEAR AND CONCISELY. Instead of saying, "there is a boat coming at us", it would be better to say, "we have a windward boat coming up on port tack" or "please tighten

the outhaul half an inch" instead of "we need more outhaul".

THERE ARE NON-VERBAL FORMS of communication that can be useful as well during racing. There are times when it's better to communicate by sight in addition to sound. You can be quick, clear and quiet.

- The bow person holds up fingers to indicate number of boat-lengths from the starting line.
- Jib and spinnaker trimmers can hold up a clenched fist to tell the grinder to stop turning the winch.
- The person running the hotbox can hoist and drop sails according to what is going on, by watching the bow person in some instances.

IT'S MUCH BETTER to communicate before something happens than during or afterward. Try to anticipate what needs to happen, or will happen next, and use communication as a tool to make sure everyone is ready.

*-Cathy Newpher
Education Chair*

NCWSA Open Board Position

NCWSA has a wonderfully active board this year, but we still need a Public Relations Chair!

What does the PR Chair do? Well, she works with the Social, Membership, and Race Chairs to publicize functions and encourage memberships. She writes press releases, promotes activities, and submits articles to different publications.

In Short, the Public Relations Chair tells the world about NCWSA!!

Contact our Commodore, Beth Paganini at paganib@oh.rr.com, if you feel a need to shout about NCWSA!



Merchandise: Fire Sale for Crew Gear!

Order NCWSA Merchandise at the next meeting!



WITH THE SEASON SWIFTLY APPROACHING, it's time to put away the winter hats and scarves & start thinking about t-shirts and flip-flops! Lucky for you, we have several selections of NCWSA T-shirts that would make for great crew gear. Get your crew together to pick your style and color and place an order for your boat.

Group orders of 5 or more of the same style and color will receive a discounted price of **\$20 per shirt** at the May meeting. Your crew will be so stylin' with its very own identity. Stop by the merchandise table to view the choices for this offer.

Oh, and don't forget about our generous PFD & Gill gear discounts brought to us by *Sailing Inc.* Look at the websites, www.gillna.com and www.extrasport.com, then bring the item number, size, and description to the merchandise table for details on our special pricing. The Merchandise Committee will place NCWSA orders after the May meeting, with turnaround by our next meeting.

*-Harriet Uhlir
Vice-Commodore*

MEET (some more of) the BOARD!

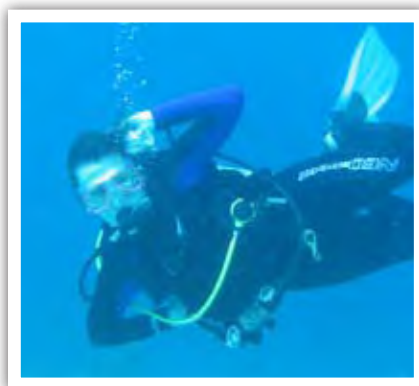


Cathy Newpher

Cathy Newpher, Education Chair

Sailing Fun Fact: "A few fun facts—I named my first boat (J24) *High Heels*. It had a graphic of a pink high-heeled shoe on the side. When I was younger, my mother and I were known for our fabulous footwear – guess we were a little ahead of our time!

When I'm on the race course, you may see me reach into my pocket and toss a quarter to the wind gods – or hear me ask my crew... "how's my driving?"



Kelly Kimble

Kelly Kimble, Race Co-Chair

Sailing Fun Fact: "My favorite sport next to sailing is Scuba Diving!!!

(No, I won't clean the bottom of your boat! :-)"

IMPORTANT!
 If you are not a 2008 member of NCWSA, this will be your LAST newsletter by U.S. Mail! Renew your membership, or request to receive the RACER by email at NCWSARacer@yahoo.com

North Coast Women's Sailing Association
 P.O. Box 771502
 Lakewood, OH 44107
 RACER



Get the latest NCWSA information SOONER!
 Receive the RACER by email! Send an email request to NCWSARacer@yahoo.com

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Race Chair	Kelly Kimble
Asst. Race Chair	Cindy Engbert
Education Chair	Cathy Newpher
Education Co-Chair	Marianne Eggett
Public Relations Chair	OPEN
Social Chair	Karen Lunka
Membership Chair	Kathy Jankowski
Website/Newsletter Chair	Cheri Morabito

NCWSA Mission Statement

~ to encourage women to become more actively involved in sailboat racing through regattas and clinics, and to create a spirit of good fellowship among members.