



SANDUSKY SAILING CLUB

PO BOX 814 • SANDUSKY, OHIO 44871-0814 • www.sanduskysailingclub.com

The object of the Sandusky Sailing Club shall be the promotion and encouragement of sailing and seamanship, and of a sportsmanlike attitude toward racing and competition. The Club is organized to encourage small boat sailing and racing among those who may not be able to afford large annual dues and assessments.

February 2018 Cross Bearings

- 02/05 Mon NO Sadler Basin Committee meeting this month
- 02/06 Tues Junior Sailors Inc. meeting 7:00pm
- 02/13 Tues SSC Board meeting 7:00pm
- 02/16 Fri Friday Forum - Sandusky Junior Sailors,
Learn to Sail and Adaptive Adventures..... 7:00pm
- 02/24 Sat Wine Tasting Party..... 6:00pm
- 03/05 Mon NO Sadler Basin Committee meeting this month
- 03/06 Tues Junior Sailors Inc. meeting 7:00pm
- 03/13 Tues SSC Board meeting 7:00pm
- 03/17 Sat St. Patty's Day Party 6:00pm
- 03/23 Fri Friday Forum -
Shipwrecks of the Western Basin 7:00pm

For more info go to: www.sanduskysailingclub.com.

Commodore's Comments Comm. Mark Gross

Boat Show – Thank you to all of our members who volunteered to work the SSC booth at the Cleveland Boat Show! PC Steve France organized the boat show for us this year as part of the membership initiative that he is leading. Pamela and I worked Friday evening and, though the crowd was light, were able to talk to a number of people about our club. The primary purpose this year was to gain visibility for all the various benefits offered by our club and to obtain contact information for prospects. There was a great crowd on Saturday and we had a lot of interest. All who worked the booth thought it was a big success. Finally, thank you to Mic Kaufman and Suzanne Hartley for taking care of setup and tear down duties!

Thoughts on our club – I have reactivated the Long Range Planning Committee and we had an initial meeting last month. Thanks to the Past Commodores who have agreed to serve. I think of this committee as being an analogue to the Sadler Basin Committee, as the Sadler Committee advises the Board with respect to the marina operation and its long-term needs, this committee advises the Board with respect to club operations and the club's long-term needs. Both are vital to the future of our club. The first thing that the Long Range Planning Committee is doing is asking our members to complete surveys from time to time to inform our leadership as to what matters to the members. Thus, we can take those thoughts into account as we lead the club into the future. The first survey is attached to this Cross Bearings. It is also available online and printed copies are at the clubhouse. You should have received an e-mail with a link to the online survey, which is the easiest way to complete it. If you are technology averse, please feel free to fill out the survey on paper and return it to the club. It should only take you five or ten minutes to complete the survey. Please take a look at it and give us your thoughtful answers to the questions presented. It will be very helpful as we make decisions for our club.

If you have any concerns or there is anything that you believe will make our club better, please don't hesitate to contact me at mgross@grosslaw.net or 419-357-6747. You may also contact any other member of the Bridge or Board.

Sailing Vice VC John Schwartz

Yearbook - This is apparently the issue where I need to say the yearbook is underway, but that would be lying (unless tonight counts).

If anyone likes dad-joke humor - check out despair.com. It's completely dedicated to parodies of corporate motivational posters and they have a poster with an inspirational picture of a hiker on top of a mountain looking down on the clouds and lower peaks beneath him. The word at the top in bold is "Procrastination" and the small font reads, "hard work often pays off over time, but laziness always pays off right now."

So, the short of it is that February will be a bit of a scramble to assemble the yearbook. We are looking for content and advertisers. Got a picture or something of interest? Please email it to me at john@CLIsupports.com.

Also, advertising is cheap-- and it will last all year. I'm taking donations for anyone who wants to jump in with the rest of the SJRT parents to publish a full page group "Village People" shot of Past Commodores. I'm also taking donations if anyone would like to see that particular ad not published.

Survey - By now everyone should have received an email regarding a web-based survey. The link can be found in the members section at www.sanduskysailingclub.org or on the last page of this newsletter. I've also put paper copies on the clubhouse table to your left as you come in. I would love if all members would complete a survey-- not just one per household, but each member. SSC, like many other sailing/ social clubs, is faced with flat and older membership. We need comprehensive information about what current members love and don't want to change about SSC-- and what changes we might all agree would bring new members in. What have you seen other clubs do to demonstrate that they're still relevant?



Hard water sailing at the club

Credit Cards - Finally (right?). The SSC board has been debating how and whether to begin taking credit cards for quite some time-- and how to limit/afford the 3% fees that would come out of the club's profit on each credit card sale. There is also the extra burden of accounting for those sales. I personally would like us to take credit cards for club activities because everybody keeps taking all of my cash -- and because I think that it is something that more and more members expect -- and because I think we'll sell more to make up for the fees. I bring this up because it's a small, seemingly simple issue. But it's a bit like pulling a loose thread, and this is why we need lots of different opinions on this month's web survey. We are a small, mostly volunteer club. Our roots are small boats and sailors who might eschew convenience in order to keep sailing affordable for members.

However, it's 2018 and we all seem to pony up \$600+ / year for a smart phone and \$1,000+/year for more TV to watch than SSC founders could have imagined. It is a different world. While I feel strongly that there is an important role for SSC today, I also think that we're going to have to figure out new features that today's members want. What is the right balance for now? Please complete your survey and don't hesitate to contact me about the newsletter or anything else.

Hope to see you around the club at one of the cool things that Matt's lined up for us.

Please note that my and all other CLI email addresses have all changed to the domain CLIsupports.com.

Keep the ideas coming either by email at john@CLIsupports.com or by voice/text at 419-706-5137.

The View from the RearRC Matt Bedee

As I type this month's *Cross Bearings* at the club with the music playing, I think about a conversation that Timmo and I had this afternoon while we got the club ready for the Craft Beer Tasting Party. I was asking about the history of this or that and how things have been done in the past, regardless if it was the right or wrong to do a particular thing. Gist of it was I remember being down at the club in the '80s racing with Dr. Wayne Karnes after being "forced" to do Learn To Sail the first week of summer vacation. Then racing with Dr. Don Young on his T10. However, once I got into high school/college I really didn't come to the club. It was not until my daughter, Skylar, did Learn To Sail and then joined the SJRT nearly 20 years later. From there I got involved with the club and now here I am the Rear Commodore. I think PC Pete Grant's "plan" worked - he got me in as a trustee three years ago.

Back to Tim's and my conversation: What stuck with me is that he said, "But you came back and are involved with the club." If you have friends that were involved years ago with SJRT, Wednesday Night Races, etc., extend an invitation to them to join you at any SSC event. Get them back to the club that has meant a lot to you and has been, in some cases, part of your family for generations. If you are reading this *Cross Bearings* on the website and have thought of joining SSC or re-joining the club, please join us at any of our events.

Reminder that the first Friday Forum will be on Feb. 16 at 7pm. It will be a presentation on the Learn To Sail Program. For the food, I want to attempt to make it interactive and try an idea from a bakery client of mine. We will be making gourmet pizzas to share with others or just for you. If you have a unique, favorite pizza (keyword is unique), you can bring the toppings you need to make the best pizza of the night. It will be a learning experience. I am sure any typical toppings will be provided (let me know in advance if you need gluten-free crust).

Wine Tasting Party will be Feb. 24 from 6-9pm. We will again provide heavy hors d'oeuvres and pulled pork/beef tenderloin. This is always a popular night and I moved it away from Valentine's Day so it will not conflict with dinner dates.

St. Patty's Day Party - Top o' the mornin to yas! Beth and Jay O'Austin would like to cordially invite you to the 6th annual St. Paddy's Day Party. We will "get our green on" Saturday, March 17 starting at 6:00pm. \$15 will get you a great dinner of corned beef, cabbage, taters, and dessert. Timmo will have the beer and Irish spirits flowing!

Please RSVP to me at jaustin6@kent.edu or 330-351-0283 by March 3. Beth and I want to make sure we have plenty of home cooked food for ya! This has become quite a popular tradition, so you don't want to miss out! See the attached flier in this issue and on the SSC calendar. We'll send an email blast later in February.

As Oscar Wilde once said, "Work is the curse of the drinking (sailing) class!" - Jay Austin

The March Friday Forum will be on March 23 from 7-9pm. We will discuss Lake Erie Shipwrecks. The presentation is titled *Shipwrecks of Lake Erie: Fire, Storm, Collision*. Visit their website at www.eriewrecks.com.

Friday Forums will be scheduled through the summer and fall as the schedule allows. I am going to be asking several of last year's presenters if they will do them again during the summer to allow anyone who missed them last spring.

I also talked to Jay Austin to do May's Friday Forum and discuss the Race Committee jobs and Racing Rules of the Road. The May Friday Forum coincides with the Big Steak Out Open House event that PC Steve France is hosting on May 19.

If you have ideas for Friday Forums, please contact me. The food will be different each month and may be potluck over the course of the year.

Sandusky2018 - 2018 is Sandusky's Bicentennial year and there will be events throughout the year. More information can be found at www.sandusky2018.com. The Festival of Sail will be July 12-15 and will include the Tall Ships returning to Sandusky. Adaptive Adventures, part of SJSI, will host a dinner cruise, so watch for more information to come under my report or the Adaptive Adventures report in upcoming *Cross Bearings*. Sandusky Sailing Club has been around for a significant portion of Sandusky's 200 year history when you think about it; we have been around since 1932.

Contact me - Please feel free to contact me at matt.bedee@theaustin.com or 419-202-0044.

St. Patty's Day at the Sailing Club



When: Saturday March 17, 2018 @ 6:00pm. THE ACTUAL HOLIDAY THIS YEAR! UH OH! GREEN BEER?!

Cost: \$15/person

Meal: Traditional Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner, St. Patty's Day Appetizers, and Dessert

The Dairy Bar will be serving all of your favorite Irish concoctions including Guinness, Bass Ale, GL Conway's, Killian's, and an assortment of Irish whiskeys.

RSVP: Jay Austin at jaustin6@kent.edu BY MARCH 3rd

“Work is the curse of the drinking class” – Oscar Wilde

Operations Tim Kyle
There is no scheduled Sadler Committee meeting in February.

Feel free to contact me with questions or concerns about the marina or clubhouse, at timmo@sbcglobal.net or call 419-656-5881.

Learn to Sail.... Mic Kaufman / Suzanne Hartley
SJSI applied for and received a Mylander Foundation grant for \$1600, so we are planning on integrating technology into the classroom with a smart board, projector, and laptop! These



will be available for the full reach of the program this year. The boat show was a great success! Suzanne and Mic set up the Sailing Club/ Learn to Sail booth on Wednesday. Thank you to Steve for getting all of the posters and paperwork together: they looked awesome! Thank you to all of the members who came out and worked

at the booth on this beautiful weekend, we had some great conversations and ideas bounced around in some of our down time! Adaptive Adventures and the sailing simulator that they brought in was a huge success! There was a great amount of communication between our two booths for potential members and students. Mic was thoroughly impressed with the sailing simulator. It was an amazing piece of technology to have at our disposal at the boat show! Larry Brent, and Mic gave at least 10 kids and several adults a crash course sailing lesson and many were exited and expressed interest in learning more. Suzanne and Mic believe we all had great success at the booth.

MembershipPC Steve France
New members Mark and Lynda Waymouth hail from the Cincinnati suburb of Mason, and according to Mark, a 3 1/2 hour drive to Sandusky. So they plan to spend summer weekends living aboard their 27' Island Packet, *About Time*. They have owned their boat for four years and kept it at Battery Park Marina where they sought to socialize with other sailors, then thought that the Sailing Club offered a better opportunity to rub shoulders with those of similar interests. Mark grew up sailing out of Marblehead, Massachusetts. For years while living in Cincinnati, they did a lot of chartering prior to acquiring *About Time*. They have grown children, one daughter and one son. They are interested in participating in some of the Cruising Fleet sailaways. Please join me in welcoming the Waymouths to SSC.

For the Good of the Order

Mid-America Boat Show update: The winter boat show that ran Jan. 18-21 has changed dramatically over the past 15 years or so. Gone are the big sailboats. Gone also are the big power cruisers. What remains consumes less than half the I-X Center's floor space. Nevertheless, it was a successful show for SSC. We came away with more than 20 solid leads for one or more of our three offerings (membership, dockage and LTS), plus one new regular membership. Good pre-show preparation along with a crew of great volunteers made the difference for our club. Thanks to our 14 volunteers who were on-site during the four days of the boat show.

Call for carpet - A reminder that old carpet (minimum 12'x6') can be dropped off on the porch of the Learn to Sail barn.

SSC online calendar - The website committee is making a concerted effort to keep the SSC online calendar current, making it a more useful tool when you're trying to find out what is going on at your club. Go to www.SanduskySailingClub.com, then to "Communities," then to "Events Calendar." Click on the event and you will receive more info, contacts, links, as well as any fliers available.



SSC's display at the 2018 Mid-American Boat Show.

Awards not picked up at the banquet may be picked up at SSC. Contact Tim Kyle at the dairy bar. Thanks, Don Guy

I-LYA news – Keep up with the latest news from the Inter-Lake Yachting Association, the governing body of local clubs, by subscribing to the I-LYA newsletter or check out past newsletters at www.i-lya.org.

Sailing Stuff for Sale

Seabiscuit, O'Day 34, \$25,900 - Well maintained boat, consistently improved and loved by current owners. Call or email Jim Priebe @ 440-781-9618 or jpsailinghorse@yahoo.com for a complete list of improvements and upgrades.



1985 C&C 29-2 - \$16,500 - This boat can be seen online at

<http://www.sailboatlistings.com/view/68630>.

Contact Bill Kellner at 440-667-3732 or bkellner48@gmail.com.

J-24 for sale - 1979. Set up for single-handed, MORC or one-design. Good sails and rigging. Fair trailer. Boat is in good condition - bottom needs attention. The bottom has been blasted and ready for sanding and bottom paint. \$3,250.00. Contact PC Park McRitchie at park@quikspray.com

Interlake with trailer. Two sets of sails. For information contact Richard Byrd at 216-533-6209 or alphabyrd@gmail.com

Boat well available for a 28-30' boat. Located at the end of the channel in the Cove on Cove Park Blvd. \$300/mo. year round 614-579-2074 cell or txt.

1987 Hunter 31. Excellent condition. Several sets of sails recently inspected and repaired. Yanmar 2GM20F 2 cyl. Diesel. Sale includes steel cradle and many extras. Ready to cruise or race. Asking \$25,000. Racing sails are available for extra \$\$\$. Contact Rory Carpenter at 734-660-1517.

1987 Sabre 30 Mark III. Freshwater boat. One of few available on the Great Lakes. Excellent condition. Sails in good shape. New, upgraded diesel in 2006. Numerous recent improvements. Includes cradle. Ready to cruise or race. Asking \$33,900. Contact Comm. Mark Gross at 419-357-6747 or mgross@grosslaw.net

Yamaha 9.9 4-stroke motor model (FT9.9ELK) It should be a 1985 model. Sips fuel, and has been winterized year in and out. Comes with a side mount control box and cables. Very reliable, runs great! I upgraded to a bigger motor. Always stored indoors in the off season. Best offer. Contact Todd Baker at medinatodd@yahoo.com.

45-watt solar panel, new in box. Harbor Freight advertised for around \$140; Sell for \$100. Everything you need except mounting. Contact Jack Kamer at 614-314-7445 or jkamer@columbus.rr.com.



The Adaptive Adventures' sailing simulator was a big hit at the boat show.

SSC Strategic Planning Survey February, 2018

The Long Range Planning Committee would like to know what you would do to improve our club, to make it more appealing to visit the club more often, stay longer, and to attract new members to SSC.

Following are 12 questions (13 if you count where you have to enter your email address). Thank you for taking the time to answer them. The more input we have, the more likely the long-range plans will match the desires of the greatest number of members.

Please check all the boxes that describe you:

- Age 25 or under Age 25 - 50 Age 50 +
- I'm a parent or grandparent of younger kids
- Owner of a keelboat docked at SSC
- Owner of a small boat on bulkhead at SSC
- Sailboat racer
- I'm the spouse of an active member
- I live within 30 minutes of SSC
- I live between 30-60 minutes drive from SSC
- I live more than an hour's drive from SSC
- I'm typically at SSC on weekdays in the season
- I'm typically at SSC on the weekends in the season

Which of the following is your #1 reason for belonging to SSC?

- Social activities
- Affordable dockage
- Racing
- Like being around sailboats/sailing people
- Status of being SSC member
- Other: _____

Which of the following is clearly NOT the reason that you belong to SSC?

- Social activities
- Affordable dockage
- Racing
- Like being around sailboats/sailing people
- Status of being SSC member
- Other: _____

What do you like most about SSC as a social club?

What would make SSC a better a social club?

What do you like most about SSC facilities?

What would make SSC facilities better?

Should SSC take credit cards for the bar and other activities in the clubhouse? * Yes No

Should SSC take credit cards for dues & dockage? *
 Yes No

If you said yes to either of the credit card questions-- what are your ideas about how SSC could make up for the 3% fees?

If you were given \$5,000 to spend on the club, what would you do?

If you were given \$75,000 to spend on the club, what would you do?

Don't worry about the actual budgets. We want to know your big and small idea(s).

SSC's membership has been both aging and declining over the past few years. What are your ideas to recruit more/younger members?

What question(s) would you like to see in the next survey?

Other comments?

Would you be willing to answer follow-up questions?
If so, please provide your email.

Fill out this form and return it to the Dairy Bar or mail it to the club. Or click on this link to fill it out online.
<https://preview.tinyurl.com/yb6g7ywe>

SANDUSKY
SAILING CLUB
PO BOX 814
SANDUSKY, OHIO 44871-0814

