



The Mainsheet



Commodore Jones

From The Helm

By Randy Jones Catalina 310 ~ Fever III Slip B-1 at Quakertown Marina

Even though winter seems to be unending I have been thinking positive by looking at the calendar. About 8 weeks should find Janice and I spending some time on the boat and Hannah Creek Marina opens in 12 weeks. I have also been watching the normal high temperature chart which is about 41 deg. now and rising a degree every 5 days or so.

The Board has gotten a lot done over the last two months. The social and racing schedule is complete and you should have received a copy attached to Social Director Mike Chrisman's recent email on the winter social as well as with this newsletter.

Membership application and

renewal forms are also available now and as always we encourage members to complete and return these as soon as possible. You will also be able to download the forms from www.blsa.us if you like.

Preliminary budgets have been set but are subject to change depending on income from membership dues. Please see attached Board Minutes for details of the meetings and location / time of next meeting.

Been on any sailing trips or made some neat changes to your boat? Tell us about it, send Bill an article. See you at Rick's on the 26th.

Randy

Highlights in this months Newsletter

- Great article from John Johannemann on he and Mitzie's teaching vacation in Thailand.
- Social and racing calendar attached along with some ideas for 2011
- Instructions on renewing or completing your membership
- Summary of the new racing schedule and events
- Reminder to order your desktop calendar along with your membership.

Help your club out
Get your membership in soon !

Calendar

February
26

Winter Social

Rick's Tavern
5595 Boymel Dr.
Fairfield, OH
6-9 pm

March
19th

Ice Breaker

Kent's Harbor
Firepit
1-4 pm

BLSA BOARD MEMBERS

Commodore Randy Jones sailboatrj@aol.com Cell: 513-320-4463	Social Director Mike Chrisman m_chrisman@fuse.net Cell: 513-604-8650	Treasurer John Johannemann johnmitzie@aol.com Cell: 859-380-6798	Communications Bill Beglin wrbeglin@aol.com Cell: 317-447-7550
Vice Commodore & Membership Chair Mike Burd mburd_0825@fuse.net Cell: 513-515-8137	Racing Director Ashli Slawter slawter@insightbb.com Cell: 859-630-5289	Secretary Cathi Ege Egepropertyrental@fuse.net Cell: 513-307-6510	Harbormaster Cory Chadwick cory.chadwick@hamilton-co.org Cell: 513-236-5829

Social Calendar

Mike Chrisman.....Catalina 250 ~ Escape Slip 38 at Hanna Creek Marina

Attached is the 2011 BLSA combined social and racing calendar. Like last year, Ashli Slawter and I tried to coordinate the schedules. For several weekends this year members can look forward to a fun race, followed by a pleasant evening at a social gathering. This schedule is not changed much from last year, which I think is a good thing. We had fun last year. One change is that we are going to do the Steak Dinner a bit earlier in the season with the hope that the weather is a bit

cooler for the cooks.

With this new schedule comes my plea for volunteers. I am looking for members to host or co-host an event. If you hosted last year, please consider hosting again. If you haven't hosted, coming out and helping with a social event is an excellent way to get to know more BLSA members. Part of the fun of hosting is that you can come up with your own version of the theme for the event. We have kept the events the same, but there is always

room for you to give an event your own personal touch. Please email me at mchrisman513@gmail.com if you are interested.

I will be actively seeking volunteers at our next event, the Winter Social. This will take place on February 26th from 6 to 9 PM at Rick's Tavern in Fairfield, Ohio. It will be followed by the Ice Breaker at Kent's Harbor on March 19th from 1-4pm.

By calculation, we have about

11 weeks until Hanna Creek opens again for the season. As a club, we have a lot to look forward to this year.



**Captain Jack Slawter—
Master Salesman of
Burgees at the 2010
Winter Social**

Membership - 2011

Mike Burd.....Bavaria 32~ Wind Swept Slip D-30 at Kent's Harbor Marina

Once again it is time to renew membership to BLSA. Attached along with this newsletter you will see a membership form. Please print it out and return with a check to myself. If you wish, fill it in and send back in e-mail and I will attach your check when received. As in the past the newsletter will be sent out electronically, if you wish others to receive it, please provide us with their e-mail addresses. The social and racing schedule has

been approved so you should be able to see the events listed we plan on providing this year. The club membership is a good way to participate in all club activities and sponsor some of your own if you wish. I know we always need social and racing help with functions, so please take time and sign up to help for an event. Any questions about membership, please contact me for follow up. Thanks.

Racing - 2011

Ashli Slawter.....S2 7.9 ~ Uno Mas Slip 71 at Hanna Creek Marina

BLSA Sailing 2011

Greetings! I hope you are all looking forward to spring and upcoming sailing season. This year I have added some fun events to the calendar. I have added sailing events along with racing events. I'm looking forward to seeing many BLSA boats on the lake having fun.

I have made a big change to the series races. This year we will have two series; a Sunday series, and a Saturday series. Each series will be 6 days of races with two races on each day. At the end of the season we will award prizes for each series. The two series will be added together to determine the club champion and J-24

champion. Several of you mentioned that you would like to race on Sunday. I hope to see you on the course.

I also added some fun Portsmouth events to the calendar. Once again, the season will start with "My Secret Weapon." If you are interested in learning how to race or would like a sailing coach for a day, this is your event. On June 18, the summer solstice, we will hold our "Summer Sailstice" event. This is a national get out and sail day. Look up this fun event on line <http://www.summersailstice.com/>.

The "PP&J Kids Sailing Day" will be a fun opportunity to get

the youngsters out on small boats. And, we have added the "Full Moon Frolic" a night race. This race will be a casual up and down the lake race ending at a raft up.



Some of the more successful events from last year made the calendar again. Expect to see the "Big Bubba Burger Bash",

"Beer Maidens on Board", and "Poker Face" this summer season. The poker run will get a bit of a face lift before the big event. Last year the cards turned to mush. I would love to hear your ideas on this event and racing in general.

Last year we had many BLSA boats participate in the scheduled sailing events. This year I hope to have even more. Watch for the event announcements to come via email. I would love to have some help. If you are interested in hosting one of the events please contact me. slawter@insightbb.com I look forward to seeing all of you out on the lake!

English Camp 2010

John Johannemann and Mitzie O'NeillCatalina 22 ~ Lump Sum

Slip 28 at Hanna Creek

**English Camp
2010**

In the summer of 2009, Dr. Kris Rugsaken asked us if we would be interested in joining the English Camp 2010 as Team Leaders. We responded with an immediate "yes"! Little did we know what would be the full impact of our decision.

Our backgrounds include travel to many countries where we found that proficiency in English was essential for

almost everything. Eighty percent of all commerce and tourism is conducted in English. Travel also exposed us to a wide variety of lifestyles, religions and cultures. Travel has truly enriched our lives. So, that is why we eagerly agreed to be Team Leaders for English Camp 2010. In addition, Dr. Kris assured us that it would be fun!

We each had four students, who ranged in age from nineteen to twenty-one. The daily routine for English Camp included three hours of formal classroom work followed by lunch with the students. Typically, we accompanied our students to an outing arranged by the PSU (Prince of Songkla University, Thailand) staff. After a short rest, we went to dinner (frequently at a night market) where our students helped us select food. They took great care in teaching us the importance of food in Thai culture. We were with our students for the entire day. They were exposed to English spoken by Americans and Canadians in both formal and informal settings.

The first several days were surprisingly one-sided, as we were very likely speaking too fast and the students were shy about their abilities. After they became more comfortable, they began to speak; make mistakes; slow down; and have fun (as predicted by Dr. Kris). It was then that the students began to show enthusiasm for the classes and the afternoon outings. They were



clearly eager to learn, not just about English, but about Western culture as well. The students really made measurable progress after they became comfortable.

We were treated with unbelievable respect and attention. Our students actually seemed to compete with one another to take good care of us: from helping us select food to crossing the streets safely! We found our students to have joyful

spirits in their eagerness to learn and to teach us about their country and culture. We were struck by their pride in their culture and their country. We became very connected to our students, as they did to us. At the closing ceremony, one student from each group was selected to "thank" their respective Team Leader with a very meaningful and emotional farewell experience. It was an evening that we will never forget.

We were so moved by the entire two weeks that we decided to sponsor a student from each group – Phim and Koy- for the opportunity to visit with us in America. Phim and Koy took great care of us while we were in Thailand and have maintained contact with us since we returned home. They contact us through SKYPE on a weekly (or more often) basis. They continue to increase their mastery of English through these calls and recently achieved top scores in their English classes! Throughout our adult lives, we have been gifted with opportunities to experience new and life-expanding travels. Whenever we have attempted to repay those who have helped us, we were told that we would one day have the chance to help someone else. So, that time has come. We would like to pass along the wonderful experiences that we have had through travel. Dr. Kris was right – we had fun!

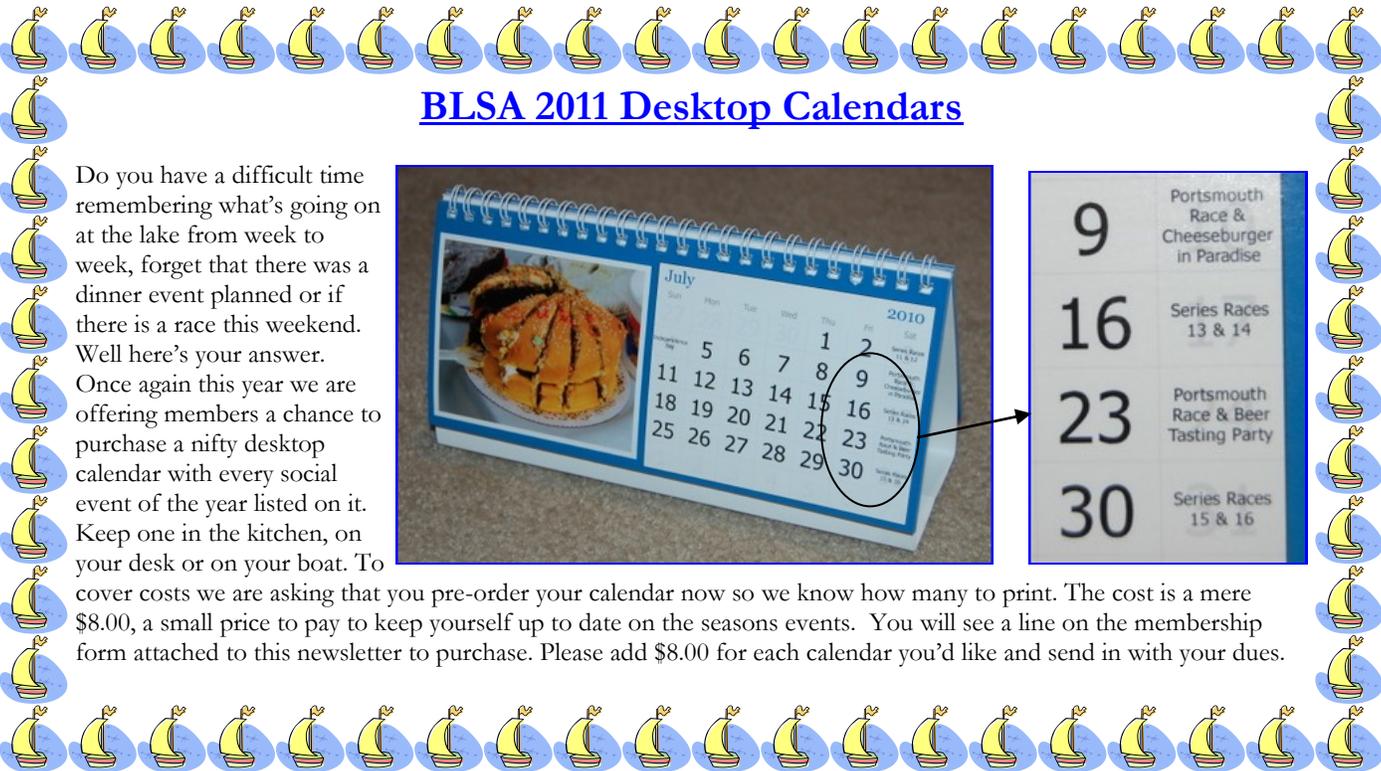
John Johannemann and Mitzie O'Neill

Tired of Winter, cold, bored ? Wish you could just do something that involved sailing.....Try some of these out.

- www.Naiticed.org New site that has some interactive training aids
- Around the Americas video http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s_QMrNA2-8&feature=player_embedded
This is a 55 minute video by 'Ocean Watch' as they sail around the world evaluating the environment.
- Check out Compass Marines how-to articles. http://www.pbase.com/mainecruising/boat_projects

BLSA 2011 Desktop Calendars

Do you have a difficult time remembering what's going on at the lake from week to week, forget that there was a dinner event planned or if there is a race this weekend. Well here's your answer. Once again this year we are offering members a chance to purchase a nifty desktop calendar with every social event of the year listed on it. Keep one in the kitchen, on your desk or on your boat. To cover costs we are asking that you pre-order your calendar now so we know how many to print. The cost is a mere \$8.00, a small price to pay to keep yourself up to date on the seasons events. You will see a line on the membership form attached to this newsletter to purchase. Please add \$8.00 for each calendar you'd like and send in with your dues.



Mid-Lake Trading Post

Hud and Diana Ozbun

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765-458-7554

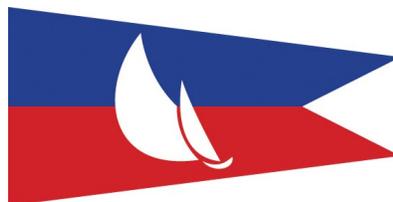
BLSA Logo Wear

Clothing items including T-shirts and hats are available from Capital Varsity Sports in Oxford, OH with the BLSA logo. Call 800-932-5545 for ordering and additional product availability.

<http://www.capitolvarsity.com/>



For BLSA burgees contact Randy Jones.



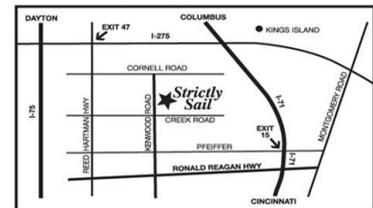
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Contact Steve Tacy - Hanna Creek # 72
Hobie 33 'Wicked Witch'