

The StormJibsheet

October 17, 2005

Commodore
Jeff Arnfield
Vice Commodore
vacant
Race Captain
Todd Bohon
Member at Large
Robert Banks



Secretary
John Garcia
Treasurer
Kerisha Kegley
Cruise Captain
Bill Murdoch

Fall Dinner Meeting Yup, it's here already: the fall dinner meeting will be at Lakeshore's Captain's Table on Saturday, October 29th. That's 12 shopping days, folks. We drink, laugh, eat, tell sailing stories – some of them true – and we nominate and vote on officers for the coming year.

Where: Lakeshore Captain's Table, downstairs banquet room

Date: Saturday, October 29th

Time: Cash bar opens at 6:00 pm, dinner buffet at about 6:45 pm

Cost: Members \$18.00, non-members \$23 (save money! Join before the meeting!)

What's cooking? Tossed Salad with assorted dressings; fresh fruit

Fried Catfish; Roast Pork & Gravy

Wild rice; green beans; vegetable medley with cheese sauce

Apple cobbler; chocolate pie

Coffee; iced tea

I need to know who's coming by Friday, October 21st, so I can confirm numbers with Lakeshore. Once the club guarantees a minimum number of attendees, we pay for them whether they actually show or not, so let's not waste the money, food, or opportunity for a good time: either e-mail (<mailto:jeff@lizards.net>) or call (423-647-2671) me and let me know how many will be in your party. **RSVP NOW !**

What's in a name? Or, more to the point, what's *with* the name? The storm jib is employed in fairly desperate conditions. Well, comrades, here we are with our fall meeting coming up and our secretary risking life and jib offshore with a ruptured holding tank, occasionally reluctant diesel, catatonic autohelm and no access to the means of Jibsheet production – desperate conditions if ever they existed. Thus, the Commodore's storm Jibsheet is hanked on, and we reach forward.

Ummm..... what did I miss? You know, if you've not been out to the lake for a while you've missed a lot. Countless days of fine sailing, of course, and a non-working work day, several working non-work days, clam chowder, the entire spring series, the Memorial Day cookout, a charter to far-away places, the Fourth of July Pig Roast, the Commodore's Cup Race, more days of great sailing, swimming and relaxing, voyages to the ends of the lake, some lovely overnights, a Dam Picnic, the Long Distance Race and Pizza Quest, Labor Day's Frogmore Stew dock feast, and, of course, most of the fall series, to say nothing of the fellowship of the folks you find at the sailboat dock. Don't let another weekend slip by without coming out to the lake, and definitely don't miss the Fall Dinner Meeting!

Fall Series Racing Sunday, October 23rd, is the final race of the fall series. By now, even non-racers know the drill: Registration 1:30–1:45, skippers' meeting at 2:00, first horn at 2:30 and the official start at 2:40. Nowhere else will \$3 buy you this much fun. Come out and race your boat, crew on someone else's boat, be committee boat, or just hang out and watch the action, then come to the fall meeting and see who carts home the hardware (series trophies, that is).

Lake Cleanup Still no word from David Pinckard, who is organizing the event around availability of labor from the work camp, but the theory is, he will ask us to provide a couple of volunteers each day for several days, probably to pilot pontoon boats that will ferry the trash collected by the workers. Good cause. Interested? Available? E-mail or call me.

Reefing Madness Last Saturday night, a moonlit sky saw Windward, a reef in the main and the genny rolled in about 10 turns, whisking upwind at 5.5+ knots in a stiff breeze gusting well over 30 knots. It's the start of my favorite sailing season: little lake traffic, refreshing temps, and, most of all, that wonderful (and sometimes aggravating) wind. Even the most gonzo adrenaline junkie, though, sometimes finds that when it comes to sail area, less can be more: reefing helps keep good helm balance and can actually increase boat speed. For the more restrained sailors amongst us, or those that don't want to terrify their guests, efficient reefing is the difference between white knuckles and big, white smiles, sailing comfortably in winds that would have kept you motoring, or at the dock.

I've talked to several folks who aren't happy with the ease or efficiency of their mainsail reefing, while others can easily reef that main in two or three minutes while sailing single handed. If you are in the former rather than the latter category, now's the time to get the kinks out of your reefing system. Try it at the dock. Try it in moderate air, under sail. If your system needs some tweaking, the club has a rich body of experienced members who are more than willing to offer pointers or show you alternatives. Just ask!

Heavy air hints: When it's blowing hard, tie in your reef before you leave the dock, and hank on your smallest jib. If you need more sail area, you can shake the reef or change up to the #2 genoa, but if you're overpowered it's a lot harder to reduce sail once you're out. Start out sailing upwind or on a beam reach; that way, you won't end up way down the lake, unable to comfortably return to the dock. And if it's blowing that hard, how about slipping into the perfect accessory: a life jacket?



Watauga Lake Sailing Club
StormJib Publications Locker
151 Whitson Drive
Elizabethton, TN 37643

FALL DINNER MEETING

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29

RSVP TODAY ! ! !
