



2014 WINDMILL NATIONALS HOOVER, OH

PHOTO THANKS TO JULIE COLEMAN

Windmill

Class Association, Inc.
Joster

Winter 2015

WINDMILLCLASS.COM

Windmill Class Business

By Sandy Sponar

We hope this finds everyone doing well in the New Year and surviving the cold and snow. In the past few months, a lot of business has been happening in the Windmill Class Association, Inc.

To comply with the presidential change our class renewed the paperwork for the state of Maryland Articles for Tax Exemption, our MD Department ID# Do6127773. Our Non-Profit Federal Employer ID number is ID# 47-2704921. Our Maryland state and federal tax filings for 2014 have been completed and filed.

New business: We want to thank Dee Dee Plessner for all of her past hard work. Dee Dee resigned as our Treasurer because of other business obligations and we wish her the best. She will continue to be an active Windmill and race against all comers to Florida.

Lance Williams volunteered and was unanimously approved by our Board of

Directors as our new Treasurer. Lance is a Professor of Business Management at Washington College in Chestertown, MD. He teaches accounting and auditing. In addition to teaching, Lance has over 35 years of experience in corporate accounting firms.

Thank-you Sue for letting him take on this role and help our Windmill Class continue to grow.

New Fiberglass Hulls being built:

A beautiful Stars and Stripes Blue Johannsen hull #5705 was designed and commissioned by Chris and Nancy Demler.

The WCA, Inc. also contracted with Mark Johannsen to build a new White class boat #5704. Both boats should be completed by early March.

If you're interested in building a new hull contact Ralph Sponar and Mark Johannsen. Hulls must be built in groups of two or more.



Welcome Pat Huntley

The Windmill class Johannsen hull # 5703 was sold to Pat Huntley. Pat and his wife Janet will be happy additions to our Windmill Family. Their background includes sailing in many other classes. They also hope to start a new Windmill fleet at their home port of Erie, PA.



Lance Williams and Sue Caswell

Meet the District Commodores



Southern District 1: Florida Fleet #1 Clearwater

By Commodore Colin Browning

I first discovered the Windmill back in 2008 while sailing in a Sunday race out of Davis Island Yacht club. It was a light air day about 4 knots of wind, we were on a downwind leg with the jib poled out when a Windmill easily sailed past us. It was Antolin Rivera sailing single handed on his boat named Lady Lane. I thought wow, that's a really cool little boat that I could sail single handed in light air or I could sail it with my at the time, 14 year old daughter, the perfect bonding time.

That's what's so cool about the Windmill's, everybody helps everybody out. The Windmill Fleet is like a family that extends through the U.S. I really enjoy doing regattas out of state and having my sailing buddies joining us here in Florida from other states. The best part is having our northern friends come here in the winter when we can share our awesome weather, while those that didn't get to come here are shoveling snow off their driveways.

The southern fleet is really lucky to have some diverse sailing talent. Several of our members have other boats some of which include the 505, Flying Dutchman, Day Sailor, Star, and various other awesome sail boats. Along with that and our year-round sailing some even crew on big boats with different clubs. To top that off we even share race committee duty with several clubs which there are many of in this sailing rich environment. The talent goes beyond racing skills, 4 members of our fleet work for North Sails including one of our most recent Nationals champion Ethan Bixby. Ethan has held seminars on Windmill boat rigging, sail trim and technique with on the water instruction. He's one of our fleet's most valuable assets.

Florida is home to the new Windmill builder Mark Johansen. Please check these boats out in the pictures on the class website. My ultimate goal is to have a yacht club with deep pockets order 5 of these to get the local kids addicted to sailing. That would continue the Windmill tradition and get other clubs interested. The youth is our future. That's why I volunteer my boat to sail in the Junior Nationals. Junior Nationals is the day which I can totally relax on my boat and enjoy seeing the thrill on the face of a youth sailor. Hopefully while making a lasting impression and gaining a fleet member and future Windmill family member. My home is always open to out of state sailors who would like to stay here for regattas, I have 2 spare rooms and a spare boat. We have some awesome parties amongst our fleet. See ya soon!

Colin owns two windmills. His hull numbers are #5252 and #4481.



Mid-Atlantic District 3: NC, VA, WVA, DC, MD and Delaware Fleet #82 Rock Hall, MD

By Commodore Dyer Harris

As a kid I was somehow wired to prefer boats and sailing over more traditional sports, even though my father could not swim. But a high school teacher and Sailing Club advisor taught me how to build, repair, and sail them. The school fleet included a Windmill, several Snipes, and a lightning; a gift of Ted Turner. I have never stopped loving boats. I like many was terrorized by second year algebra. I barely survived. About the same time in the sailing club, the advisor loaned me a yachting magazine in which there was an article purporting to describe the physics of how sailboats worked. Alas, I could not understand the math.

I was determined to figure it out. So determined that I broke out of my sophomore funk. I realized I could do math if I tried, and that carried me through engineering school at Vanderbilt. Then advanced degrees;

studying fluid dynamics of course, still searching for the sailboat answer, and a career in engineering at DuPont. For the last ten years, I have been running my own engineering consulting company.

Also I teach engineering as an adjunct at Villanova and University of Delaware. So I'm up to my eyeballs in math every day.

Do I understand the physics of sailing now? No, I still can't figure it out. But neither can anyone else that I know of. I just enjoy it as much now as then, even more with my wife Carol as crew.

Along the way I sailed a Snipe in Chattanooga and South Carolina. Then when DuPont moved me to Delaware, I left the Snipe behind. I bought a well-used Windmill from a school near Urbana, VA, for my son John and I to sail. We sailed it with a little pickup group in the shallow northern reaches of the Bay, and also towed it to several Nationals. I discovered the Rock Hall Yacht Club when Allen Chauvenet, who knew of it from boyhood, suggested holding the 1999 Nationals there. Windmillers who came looked around the big lawn and said, "If this is a yacht club, where are the boats?" But what a place to sail! The best on the Eastern Shore that I know of even if 75 miles from Wilmington. My Windmill immediately became resident. In the following years sailing grew back at the RHYC, led by several new members in addition to me who were avid sailors. Along the way I was Fleet Captain, then Vice Commodore, then Commodore. We hosted the Windmill Nationals several times over those years, and here we are again. Welcome!



New England District 4: PA, NY, NJ, CT, RI, MA, NH, VT and Maine

Fleet #21 Great South Bay NY

By Commodore Jack Cartland

I have been sailing a Windmill for the last 10 years in local, regional, and national racing events. Locally, the Massabesic Yacht Club; located in Auburn, NH, is the home of 6 Windmillers who race weekly and the host of the annual MYC Regatta, which also serves as the Windmill Northern Regatta.

I am always interested in getting more boats to the starting line, so feel free to drop me a line anytime you need help to get out and sail. The MYC also conducts a learn-to-sail program; on and off the water, which has helped new sailors find their sea legs and grown our fleet. If interested, please visit

<http://www.mycsailing.com/documents/learntosail/2015%20LTS%20flyer.pdf>



Jack Cartland races hull number #2117.



Mid-Western District 5: OH, IL, IN, KY, MI and Missouri

Fleet #60 Hoover, OH

Fleet # 16 Kansas City

By Commodore Craig Tovell

Windmill Fleet #60 will be hosting the longest running Windmill Class Association annual event "The Mid-Westerns" at Hoover Reservoir on May 30-31, 2015. Please sign up online www.windmillclass.com and contact myself c4tovell@aol.com for out-of-town housing. We encourage our Kansas compatriots Skikne, Durand, and Wood to join us. As always, it will be a good regatta with great food.

Like most everyone in the class our District goal is to improve turnout and build our base fleet. In preparing to host the 2014 North Americans at Hoover we tuned fleet boats to get them to event caliber, exhibited when Mike and Dixie Mickelson almost pulled off a bullet in Race 5 for a 3rd place out of 36 teams As an observation, teams that put effort into upgrades like John and Allie Coleman as well as Tim and Nate Bachman are climbing up the nationals ladder rungs.

Our fleet tinkering imbued camaraderie and created parity resulting in our fleet trading off leaders in club races throughout the season – something not seen in years and is inspiring. That in itself is success, however not good enough.

We're are also focusing on improving competition by attracting veteran dinghy sailors. Especially family sailors



Dyer Harris sails out of Rock Hall Yacht Club. His sail windmill's number #5400.

and juniors where the simple handling of a Windmill is attractive – not requiring a spinnaker. Fleet #60 has been fortunate to have some new members and interest for 2015. Within our fleet we have two 505 veterans where one of the boats is an all lady college team. Our diehards the Fergusons, Himmelsbachs, and Bachmans are regular racers too.

Another spin-off from the North Americans is gaining three high-end boats and racers mainly thanks to the efforts of Lon Ethington recruiting JY15 chap Pat and Janet Huntley who recently purchased a new boat and are rigging as the snow falls. Chris and Nancy Demler also purchased a new boat. This also frees up their boat hull #5045 for so Cam and Fiancé Melanie to join us in Columbus. In keeping up with the Joneses, I picked up a McGlaughlin when taking our daughter back to college for a hull upgrade.

Old #4200 will become a fleet boat or trainer for Hoover guest participation which has worked well for the local MC Scow fleet having a “hot spare” boat. Interlake racer Mark Presley and son James will be joining us as well. I personally had a great time training with 5 different crew last year and for the first time in 24 years raced in the North Americans my wife Cindy.

The basic tenet as an individual sailor, fleet, or district is that Buddying Up pays dividends. Be sure to sign up for the 2015 Nationals at Rock Hall YC on July 24-26 – and double deck with someone for a fun, rustic vacation about an hour from Annapolis east on the Delmarva Peninsula.

Craig currently owns two boats. He has been racing hull #4200 for years. He was the 2013 National Champion in Fishing Bay, VA.



Western District 8: California and Nevada

By Commodore Darrell Sorensen

I have been racing outboard boats since 1961. While living in Eugene, Oregon I worked with Joe Price where I learned most of what I know about designing and building race boats.

In 1980 I relocated to Chowchilla, CA and opened Sorensen Woodcraft, specializing in race boat kits and custom built boats. In 2009 after restoring a Windmill class sailboat I started racing sailboats and sold Wooden Windmill Sailboat kits and plans.

While I no longer build kits since moving to Merced, CA in 2014, I still offer plans.

I race in in the beautiful California waters at the Lake Yosemite Regatta and have been supporting the junior's movement getting involved in Windmills. I also spearheaded the Classic Wooden Windmill division that will be at Nationals this year. Another proposal, to increase Windmill participation is a form of “High-Point” standings that is done in powerboat racing and other sailboat classes.

The Boom Stops Here



By Ralph Sponar

The 2015 Windmill Challenge:

- Visit the class website to see all the changes that Alan Taylor has made.
- Remember to pay your dues by writing a check to Windmill Class Association, Inc. and mail it to Allen Chauvenet. Your dues go a very long way to funding improvements and promotion for the class.
- While many of you are probably snowed in, use this time to make plans for the upcoming sailing season to attend a new regatta. You can make some new sailing friends and experiences that we can talk about at the upcoming nationals.
- Share the love of sailing a windmill with someone new. Hopefully, they will become a future windmill owner like yourself.
- This season make sure to dust off your old and new boats for Larry Christian to measure.
- Got an idea for making the class even better? Contact your district commodore, class official, or myself to share your idea so we can act on your suggestions.



Kudos to Allie Coleman

If you haven't been hibernating this winter under all this snow you may have noticed that the Windmill Class has branched out into social media. Allie put in a lot of work as our new Public Relations manager by creating some awesome videos to promote the Northern Southern Regatta and the Nationals for 2015. You can find her videos on the class website or on our new Facebook group by searching Windmill Class Association in Facebook or going to the link here:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/635502716564409/>



Have you had enough of the snow, ice and cold weather? Make plans to travel to Florida where the sun is shining on beautiful sandy beaches and as each wave gently kisses the shore you hear someone calling your name.



Come out and sail where the dolphins and birds frolic around your boat and have nothing but big smiles on their faces as they slide past.

Are you ready to see something other than white mounds piled up higher than your head? How about green and blue and that yellow orb somebody calls the sun. Is your boat stuck under feet of snow? Make a few calls, book a flight to get some sunshine on your face and feel the sand between your toes.



Mid-Winters 14-15 March

Signing up for the Mid-Winters that will be held at Clearwater Community Sailing Center is easy on regatta network. The sailing talent pool is deep, so come out and challenge past Nationals winners.



If that doesn't work into your schedule, then make plans to attend Sarasota One Design Regatta the next weekend. More boats will be available for charter.

People walk around with a smile on their face because they know the only white stuff they have to touch will be sunscreen. The Saturday night dinner is a great shrimp boil and Michelob Light is their sponsor for the event this year.



2015 Windmill Nationals July 23 - 26 at Rock Hall Yacht Club



You are invited to attend the Annual Windmill Nationals Event that will be held the week of 20 July 2015. We are planning lots of fun activities, dinners and evening tournaments.

Rock Hall Yacht Club, Web page:
Rockhallyachtclub.org

*The club is located at:
22759 McKinleyville Rd.
Rock Hall, MD 21661 Phone 410-639-2182*

UPCOMING WINDMILL EVENTS

- *March 14-15*
Windmill Midwinter Championships,
Clearwater Community Sailing Center, FL
- *March 21-22*
Sarasota Sailing Squadron's One Design Regatta,
Sarasota, FL
- *April 18-19*
Camellia Cup Regatta
Folsom Lake, CA
- *May 16-17*
Lake Yosemite Regatta
Merced, CA
- *May 16-17*
Northern-Southern Regatta
Prince Gallitzin State Park,
Glendale Lake, PA
- *May 30-31*
Midwestern District Championship
Hoover Sailing Club,
Westerville, OH
- *June 6-7*
Go the Gold Regatta
GCRYC Scotts Flat Lake, CA
- *June 19*
RHYC Down the River Race
Rock Hall, MD
- *June 20-21*
Mid-Atlantic Championship
and RHYC One Design
Rock Hall, MD
- *July 23*
Windmill Junior Nationals
Rock Hall, MD
- *July 24-26*
Windmill Nationals
Championship Regatta
Rock Hall, MD
- *August 8-9*
76th Annual One Design
Fishing Bay Deltaville, VA