



July/August 2024

Commodore's Corner, Zack Lawson

Ahoy, I made a jokingly promise when it was freezing cold this winter that I wouldn't complain about it being hot this summer. I think I'm being tested because it's been a scorcher. However, it hasn't slowed down the club members from getting out on the water for raft ups to swim, island parties, grilling on shore but mostly taking advantage of our little lake paradise.

Back to the heat. Words to use instead of HOT. I figured we have used up the easy ones.

very warm balmy, summery, tropical, boiling, blazing, baking, scorching, roasting, searing, flaming, parching

Since it's so tropical outside, go take a sunfish for a spin around the lake with a few capsized drills, hang out on the porch with a cold beverage, or stay almost completely submerged in the water to stay cool but keep showing up and enjoying the club and the lake.

Zack

Vice Commodore, Matt Birchbickler



A sailor and a pirate meet at a bar. They take turns telling their stories of war and adventure. The sailor notices the pirate has a peg leg, a hook, and an eye patch.

"How did you get that peg leg?" asks the sailor.

"Arr, we were in a fierce storm, and a giant wave swept me overboard. Just as me crew was pullin' me out, a shark bit me leg off," the pirate replies.

"Wow, what about your hook?" the sailor asks.

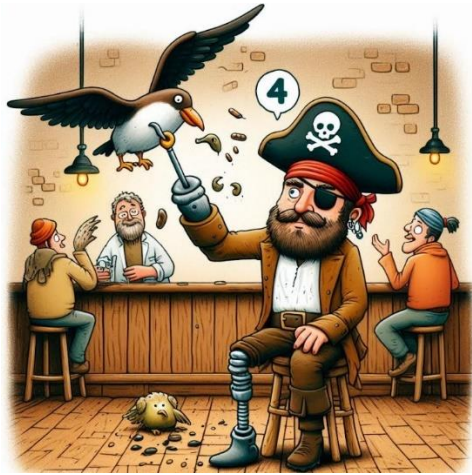
"Well," says the pirate, "I was in a sword fight and got me hand chopped off."

"Incredible! How did you get the eye patch?" the sailor inquires.

"A seagull pooped in me eye," the pirate answers.

"A seagull? You lost your eye because of seagull poop?" the sailor asks, incredulously.

"Arr, it was me first day with the hook."



Matt Birckbichler Vice Commodore, Chief Soup Connoisseur, and Bridge Avoidance Specialist



Rock the Dock—13 July Gunterville Harbour Group Cruise



Leave BCSA at Noon. See BCSA Facebook Page
and www.lakeguntersvillerocthedock.com for details

Schedule at a glance.

Date	Day	Event	Location	Time
13-Jul	Saturday	Rock the Dock	City Harbour	6:00PM
14-Jul	Sunday	Spring Series Race #9	BCSA	3:00PM
20-Jul	Saturday	Cruise to City Harbour	BCSA	10:00AM
21-Jul	Sunday	Spring Series Race #10	BCSA	3:00PM
28-Jul	Sunday	Fall Series 1	BCSA	3:00PM
4-Aug	Sunday	Fall Series 2	BCSA	3:00PM
10-Aug	Saturday	Private Cove	BCSA	10:00AM

11-Aug	Sunday	Fall Series 3	BCSA	3:00PM
18-Aug	Sunday	Fall Series 4	BCSA	3:00PM
25-Aug	Sunday	Fall Series 5	BCSA	3:00PM
31-Aug	Saturday	Town Creek	BCSA	10:00AM
8-Sep	Sunday	Fall Series 6	BCSA	3:00PM
15-Sep	Sunday	Fall Series 8	BCSA	3:00PM
22-Sep	Sunday	Fall Series 9	BCSA	3:00PM
27-Sep	Friday	TVCC	BCSA	10:00:00 AM
6-Oct	Sunday	Fall Series 10	BCSA	3:00PM
13-Oct	Sunday	Fall Series 11	BCSA	3:0PM
19-Oct	Saturday	Great River Race	BCSA	10:00AM
27-Oct	Sunday	Halloween Regatta	BCSA	1:00:00 PM
3-Nov	Sunday	Frostbite Series 2 Race 1	BCSA	2:00PM
17-Nov	Sunday	Frostbite Series 2 Race 2	BCSA	2:00PM
8-Dec	Sunday	Frostbite Series 2 Race 3	BCSA	2:00PM

Treasurer and Membership Chair,

Elizabeth Starnes

We have several new members this year....If you see a new face, or boat, be sure to make them welcome!

I hope everyone takes advantage of all the club has to offer. Check out the BCSA website for the schedule of events including cruises, racing and socials: brownscreeksailingassociation.org, or join us on Facebook. If you don't have a boat yet, you can use ours - from Sunfish to Catalina 22s.

Talk to Susan Wilson about boat usage and rentals.

Elizabeth

BIG STU



April

www.davefostercomics.com

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Spring Series Notice of Race

**March 24st thru July 21st, 2024
BCSA
Guntersville, AL USA**

Welcome to the BCSA Spring Racing Series. We will be alternating racing formats between Buoy & Pursuit. There should be a RC team on the Buoy race days. The 2014 Portsmouth Handicapping System shall be employed to handicap this event. All Sailing Yachts shall be eligible for entry and shall be handicapped accordingly. Skippers meeting at 2:00pm at BCSA clubhouse, 105 Browns Creek Rd. Guntersville, AL. Races warning signal to be made at approximately 3:00pm in the region of Lower Guntersville Light (LGL). We are following the standard [BCSA Sailing Instructions](#), which are located on BCSA's website. Expected Fleets: Dinghy, Keelboat and Cruiser.

Calendar of Races: [Events](#)

Fleets: Dinghy & Keelboat

Format: Buoy & Pursuit

Entry Fee (mandatory): \$10 for members, \$20 for non-members.

Skipper's Meeting: 2pm

Race Start Time: 3pm

Course: Will be determined on day of race

Rules: [World Sailing Rules of Racing 2021-2024](#)

Sailing instructions: [BCSA Sailing Instructions](#)

Scoring: See the [BCSA Sailing Instructions](#) and 16 for buoy races and section 16.5(C) g for pursuit races. We will be using "Low Point" on the individual races and the "Cox-Sprague" system for the series standing. No drops. 1/2 the races in the series must be raced to qualify.

Race Committee: [Schedule](#)

Schedule of Races:

Spring Series Race #9 Pursuit, Sunday 7/14/2024

Spring Series Race #10 Pursuit, Sunday 7/21/2024

Racing Events, Results, and the Master Schedule can be found at:

<https://brownscreeksailingassociation.org/wordpress/racing-events/>

RACE RESULTS

Pints and Patties Regatta

+

Dinghy (5 boats)							
Sail #	Boat	Skipper	Race 1	Race 2	Race 3	Points	Pos
27621	Voodoo child (Yflyer)	Zack Lawson	1	1	1	3	1
170	Kraken (Hunter 170 no spi)	David Ellis	2	2	3	7	2
3743	3 Sheets (Coronado 15)	Andy Myrick	3	5	2	10	3
3752	Green flying scot (Flying Scot (19'))	Butch Sarnes	4	3	5	12	4
4416	T Party (Flying Scot (19'))	Susan Wilson	5	4	4	13	5

Keelboat (5 boats)							
Sail #	Boat	Skipper	Race 1	Race 2	Race 3	Points	Pos
115	(S2 6.9)	Greg Bennett	1	1	1	3	1
3 / TBD	Chumba Wumba (Elliott 25)	Ed Hurst	2	2	2	6	2
S2 7.3	Nightwind (S2 7.3)	Ken Atchison	3	3	3	9	3
H260 / AL1009	At Ease (Hunter 260)	Stuart Elliott	6 / DNF	6 / DNC	6 / DNC	18	4
454	Hula Girl (Beneteau First 18 SE)	Chris Edwards	6 / DNC	6 / DNC	6 / DNC	18	5

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Mayors Cup

Keelboat Non-Spinnaker (9 boats)							
Sail #	Boat	Skipper	Race 1	Race 2	Race 3	Points	Pos
115	(S2 6.9)	Greg Bennett	1	2	1	4	1
454	Hula Girl (Beneteau First 18 SE)	Chris Edwards	2	1	2	5	2
0 / None	Geronimo (Beneteau First 310 MOD)	Joseph Hosch	3	4	3	10	3
221	Bobbie-Sue (Pearson Ensign)	Donnie George	4	3	6	13	4
15007	Be Calmed (Catalina 22 (WK))	Keith Hall	5	5	4	14	5
3256	Unk (Catalina 25 FK/SK)	Steven Harrigan	6	6	5	17	6
11	Muirgen (Jeanneau Sun Odyssey 349)	Clay Self	10 / DNC	10 / DNC	10 / DNC	30	7
2 / None	Dreams (Helms 24)	Carl Luallen	10 / DNC	10 / DNC	10 / DNC	30	8
14714	Catch 22 (Catalina 22 (WK))	Cullen Bryant	10 / DNC	10 / DNC	10 / DNC	30	9

Dinghy (5 boats)							
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Sail #	Boat	Skipper	Race 1	Race 2	Race 3	Points	Pos
27621	Voodoo child (Yflyer)	Zack Lawson	1	1	1	3	1
3752	Green flying scot (Flying Scot (19'))	Butch Starnes	2	2	2	6	2
661 / 661	M15 (Melges 15)	Linda Pope	3	3	4	10	3
662	M15 (M15)	Margaret Hurst	4	4	3	11	4
3892	Conundrum (Thistle)	Tommy Glenn	6 / DNC	6 / DNC	6 / DNC	18	5

Full Racing Results can be found at
<https://brownscreeksailingassociation.org/wordpress/racing-2/>

Cruise Chair, Mark Proctor



The first outing at Pirate's Cove was well attended. However, it turned out to be only a day trip raft up, as everyone returned to the marina after dark. There is another cruise this weekend (8th) to follow the Swap the Tiller festivities at Short Creek or folks may choose to take advantage of a guest slip at LGSC. The next cruise is July 4th. It is posted as a day raft up at Goat Island but it will most likely extend into the weekend. Who knows maybe we will weigh anchor and sail to another spot to drop the hook for a change of scenery. It's summertime so let's get out there and enjoy the lake!

Here is the 2024 Cruise Calendar. I would like for anyone attending these events to step up and be the lead. I am currently operationally boatless until SV Escape is further along in her refit. Hope to be out on the water soon.

**July 13
Rock the Dock at City Harbour**

**July 20th
Cruise to City Harbor**

**August 10th
Pirate Cove**

**August 31 Labor Day weekend
Town Creek**

*** itinerary Subject to change**

V/R

Mark

Ed: somebody give this guy and Sandy a ride!

Social Chair, Jennifer Birckbichler

Our dock party was so much fun. Thanks for all those who opened up your boat. Lee Riley did a great job singing.

We will try and do it again when it's not so hot.

Remember Rock the Dock is Saturday July 13th let's all raft up and listen to the music. Come and go as you please. Let's see how many boats we can get together. Music starts at 6.

Jennifer, BCSA Social Chair

Secretary, Ed Hurst

We'll the year's half gone. We're dead center in the summer doldrums with its oppressive heat. But there is always a passing storm. The Hurricanes can be massively destructive along the coast, but they bring us summer breezes and badly needed moisture.

We've had a good first half of the year. There was a lot of races. Our esteemed Race Committee, Chris Edwards has kept us busy with Regattas and Series Races. This year we've tried racing Sunday afternoons rather than Saturday mornings trying to take advantage of the afternoon cooling breezes. It has been successful more often than not.

Jennifer Birkbichler has set up a lot of great parties. There's

always been something going on at the marina.

But enough of what's been, what's important is what's to come. We've got a great fall sailing season coming.

The Tennessee Valley Challenge Cup (TVCC) is scheduled for September 27-29. This is an interclub Regatta among all the Sailing Clubs along the Tennessee River. They include The Corinthian Sailing Club in Knoxville, Privateer in Chattanooga, Lake Gunterville Sailing Club, Browns Creek Sailing Association, Wheeler Sailing Club, Muscle Shoals in Killen, and Pickwick Sailing Club in Iuka Mississippi.



Ed. The last time BCSA won the TVCC was in Muscle Shoals in 2021 during Susan Wilson's Administration. Above are the BCSA team. Everyone either won a crucial place or ran interference covering a competitor. From L, Dave Ellis, T Wilson, Ed Hurst, Susan Wilson, Butch Starnes, David Chadwick, Linda Pope, Brad Morales, Monty Williams, Zack Lawson, and _____.

This year it's BCSA's turn to host the Regatta. It is the most competitive race in the region. It brings all the best sailors to

town. Don't miss this one. It behooves the host club to field all the boats they can. There are classes for Dinghy's. Spinnaker and Non-Spinnaker Cruisers.



Captain Susan Wilson with the TVCC perpetual trophy. The problem with this trophy is it isn't in our Trophy Case. Those B@st@ds in Chattanooga have it.

There will be a party, dinner with a band Saturday night.

Plans are just now being finalized. Scuttlebutt has it that Monty is cooking Saturday. Guaranteed to be delicious!

If you can't or don't care to race, volunteers are desperately needed to help put on this event. Anything that you can do, no matter how minor, would be immensely appreciated, e.g. drive a chase boat, Sing and dance, help serve food, keep an eye on Zack, etc. Come party with us!

Also on the schedule is the Great River Race. This race scheduled for October 19th is an endurance race ran from Shell Island to Siebold light (4 laps), a distance of 68 miles or

24 hours. This is always fun. There is a short course if you don't want to stay out all night. Don't miss this one.

Also, the Annual Dinner is planned for November. This is a party where we select the new officers for the following year and vote on necessary changes to our constitution. We also pass out the booty for service and race awards. It's always a blast.

Speaking of Officers, it's not too early to think about volunteering for a position next year. I read once that serving on a fraternal or civic board results in greater happiness than more money. We need good people. It's sure a great way to meet people.

Our Race Committee has a lot of races planned, and there are some really neat cruise events on the calendar.

Also, the North Alabama Sailing Marina (NASM) has had dredging and a new ramp installed. They intend to improve a lot of dock upgrades.









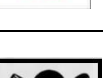

Come out and enjoy this beautiful lake with us. Make new and renew old friendships and adventures.

Lots to come, make sure you come around and sail with us.



Ed Hurst

2024 Board and Committee Chairs

Officer	Position	Officers Flag	E-mail
Zack Lawson	Commodore		Zack@skiersmarine.com
Matt Birckbichler	Vice-Commodore*		mattyb8562@gmail.com
Ed Hurst	Secretary*		Shenanigans770@gmail.com
Elizabeth Starnes	Treasurer*		estarnes245@gmail.com
Chris Edwards	Race Committee		chris@edwards.pub
Pat Upton	Member at Large*		patrickupton@sbcglobal.net
Jeff Wilson	Webmaster		jeffrey.wilson007@gmail.com
Mark Proctor	Cruise Committee		MSProctor2003@yahoo.com
Jenifer Birckbichler	Social Committee		JABirckbichler@gmail.com
Susan Wilson	Education Chair		suhurwil@gmail.com

*Voting Member

Problems of female sailors



Ed. Some of our lady sailors participated in the Charleston Race Week through the Performance Sailing School. Every day they would return home beat up and bruised but we're having a blast. It made me think of this cartoon.

A Look Back!



This is the Browns Creek Sailing Marina circa late 1970's. Of interest; the 100 dock was not yet built, the single pier was not yet seperated into the now present 300 and 400 dock, and the Island in the background was still there. The Island, now a shallow spot out from the pavillion on 100 dock was hit by a tornado which uprooted the trees causing it to erode away. The Sailboat on the transient dock I believe is the Morgan, a Morgan 22 presently on the 500 dock. I used to race on this boat extensively in the 1990's with Frank Livesay. The boat had previously sailed across the gulf. I believe the guy on the dock was named Navier-a construction guy out of Huntsville.

Notice there were predominately 3 kinds of boats, Ventures (Macgregors) which were sold at the BCSA marina, Catalina 22's, and Odays.

The transient pier must have been new as it's straight as an arrow.



Moonlight Sailing

**Creating memories
that no amount of
therapy can remove!!!**

**HONEYMOON
ANNIVERSARY
DOUBLE DATE
BIRTHDAY**



Itinerary

***0-5 knots of wind
Motorsail & kill motor to enjoy
the silence of sailing,
everyone gets time at helm**

***5-10 knots
Sails up ASAP.
everyone gets time at helm**

***10-15 knots
Sails up ASAP.
everyone gets time at helm**

Moonlight Sailing

**256.612.7529
CALL FOR PRICING**

Flags at Half-Mast

Good Morning Folks,

It is with sadness that I must pass along the news that Christopher Torgerson (known to us as Chris) has passed away. I received the news last night from Margo, his wife. She relayed these details to me. He died in the hospital from pneumonia which he had been fighting hard since 2018. There will be no obituary.

Margo asked me to pass on to BCSA members and past members that knew Chris that his memorial will be at Laughlin Funeral Home in Huntsville on June 6th from 4 to 6 PM with full Military honors.

As some of you may know, he did spend time on the BCSA board, he sailed with me on **Slow Motion** for many years and was on board during the 2015 microburst during the Dauphin Island race.

With Regrets,
Gordon Trowbridge

I didn't know a lot about Chris. I believe he was from the Northeast area and had a lot of experience offshore and in 6 Meter boats. He was a worthy competitor, a true adversary in the protest room. He could dig his heels in and not be budged.

He served as tactician on Gordons S2 7.9. You could tell when he was aboard since you got to stare at their stern at a greater distance. I believe he was instrumental in the early spotting the disturbance during the infamous Dolphine Island Race which improved their early reactions and survival.

I believe he was a Lacrosse Coach to a local team. He was a West Pointer and served as an BCSA officer in several positions culminating as a commodore. I know he loved German Sports Cars and fast boats.

He was a true friend to BCSA.

He passed over the Bar last month. He will be missed!

Ed