



# *The Drifter*

July 2025

## **A Summer of Sailing, Stars, and Support**

Summer is in full swing, and the Brown's Creek Sailing Association is buzzing with activity and energy. From Rock the Dock weekends to moonlit cruises, the water has been alive with the spirit of sailing and friendship.

This Saturday, we'll cruise to City Harbor for the Rock the Dock Raft-Up—an easygoing, music-filled evening with friends on the water. Then, mark your calendar for Saturday, August 9th, when we gather for our Dancing in the Moonlight summer social. For just \$10, you'll get a great meal, even better company, and afterward, a full moon cruise during the Perseid meteor shower. These are the kinds of nights we live for.

Behind the scenes, members have been stepping up in big ways. The boat ramp is back in action, and thanks to Chris Edwards—along with Butch and Elizabeth—the clubhouse kitchen is newly stocked with a fridge, oven, and deep freezer.

And in even more good news, a Hunter 23.5 sailboat (with trailer!) has been donated to benefit the club. If you're looking to upgrade—or know someone ready to sail—reach out to the board or check Facebook for more details.

From club improvements to unforgettable nights on the water, we've got a lot to celebrate. Thank you to everyone who's made it happen. Let's keep sailing, showing up, and making the most of this incredible community.

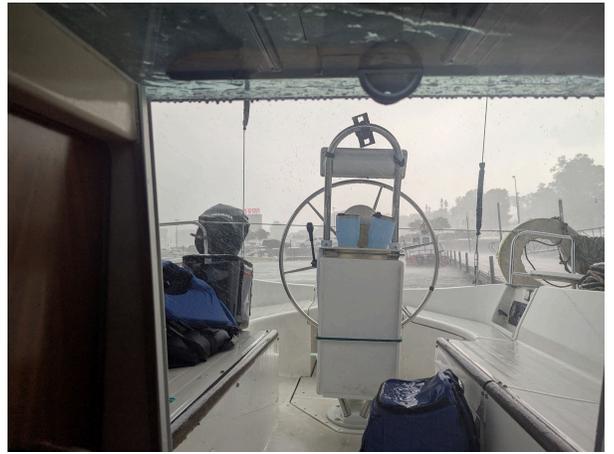
## **Message from the Commodore**

Ahoy all! It took longer than usual for the heat of summer to hit, but it is certainly here now! I hope you all are staying somewhat cool and staying safe out in this extreme heat! If you are like me, most major boat projects are on hold until fall when it cools down. Right now I'm just trying to enjoy the boat and get out there as much as we can to make the most of the season.

But, there are plenty more things going on over the summer for club members. I'd encourage you all to join as many socials, cruises, and races as you can and make some new friends! For that matter, weekends are almost always hopping with folks around the marina and it can be a great

spot to hang out. We have quite a few new club members, so if you see a new face please introduce yourself. I know I really value all the relationships my family has made with our fellow club members.

Story time! We participated in a raft-up a while back, led by our fearless Vice Commodore Charles. We had a great time over in Short Creek. We inflated our paddleboard and swim dock, cooled off in the water, took my son for a ride on a waverunner (and threw him off), and as usual had some good food and drinks. We were noticing it looked like some rain could be moving into the area, so we were checking radar on our phones and trying to plan accordingly. We decided to tie up Zack's waverunner to our boat and he hopped on board, we untied from the raft-up and decided to motor to City Harbor to ride it out. What looked like a fairly small storm cell on radar somehow turned into a virtual monsoon! Rain was absolutely pouring down (mostly sideways). Before we knew it we were in some pretty spicy conditions, whitecap waves and strong winds....it was wild! Zack and I stayed up top and my wife and son went down below to play Uno and stay out of the weather. But, we made it to City Harbor and got tied up safely. We even helped out some other folks trying to dock in the strong winds, and passed the time at Levi's with some beverages while we rode out the storm! Though never in any real danger (to my knowledge) it certainly made the whole event more memorable. And that's what the club is all about, making some wonderful memories with other club members!



**Fair Winds, everyone!**

**Jeff Wilson**

**Commodore**

## **Summer Fun Continues at the Club**

So far, it's been a fantastic summer at the club! Thank you to everyone who participated in our "Walk the Dock" event—what a great time it was exploring and showing off our boats. A special thanks goes out to those who opened their vessels and made the event so memorable.

The Shrimp Boil was another huge success! Delicious food and great company made for a perfect evening.



Hats off to Butch and Elizabeth for their incredible effort and tasty results—your hard work didn't go unnoticed!

Next up on our summer calendar is "Dancing in the Moonlight" on August 9th, starting at 5:00 PM. We'll be serving up some mouthwatering BBQ for just \$10 per person. So bring your appetite, wear your dancing shoes, and get ready for a night of music, laughter, and moonlight fun!

**Let's keep the summer vibes going strong—see you there!**

**Jennifer Birckbichler**

**Social Chair**

## **Cruise Corner: Buckle Up, the Fun's Just Starting!**

So, I missed the Short Creek Cruise—you know, real life stuff—but huge thanks to Vice Commodore Charles Nixon for stepping up and leading the charge. Word on the dock is that it was a great time, and everyone came back with sunburns and smiles. Honestly, I'm just jealous I wasn't there to soak up the views and the bad jokes. Charles, you're a champ for making it all happen!

Now, let's talk about what's coming up, because you're definitely not going to want to miss this.

First, get your party hats on for Rock the Dock on July 26th. This year, we're keeping it chill—no need to wait for the whole fleet to leave. Set sail when you're ready and head over to City Harbor, where the real fun begins. No pressure to raft up with the fleet, but if you want to, go for it. If not, enjoy your own spot and just float the night away. Remember, this isn't a race; it's more like a floating festival with glow sticks, snacks, and a questionable amount of boat drinks. The party starts when you hit the water, so you know the vibes are going to be strong.

And then, because we're all about moonlight, August 9th brings the Full Moon Cruise & Anchor Out. Picture it: sailing under a glowing full moon, the water shimmering, But wait, it gets better—this cruise is during the Perseid Meteor Shower, so get ready to watch shooting stars while you try not to spill your boat drink. There's no set destination—just follow the breeze, the snacks, and



whatever moonlit whimsy takes us. We'll keep you posted on the exact departure time, but it'll be worth staying up late for.

And here's a sneak peek at what's coming up in September! We've got a cruise planned through the Gunter'sville Lock up to Painted Bluff for lunch. Details are still being finalized, but if you're looking for a scenic cruise, some cool history, and a chance to enjoy lunch with fellow sailors, this is going to be one to remember. Keep your eyes peeled for more info as we get closer to the date.

And if you think the summer fun ends here, think again! In October, we're kicking off Browns Creek's First Annual Invitational at Goose Pond. We'll be sailing there (because, obviously, why wouldn't we?) and then hitting the greens for some highly competitive golf... with a bit of a twist. The Goose Pond Invitational will be the perfect blend of competition and chaos. Whether you're swinging clubs like a pro or just there to make the event even more ridiculous, this is going to be one for the books. Details coming soon—prepare for both the competition and the complete sh\*\* show that's sure to follow.

**See you out there,**

**Matt Birckbichler**

Cruise Chair

## Membership Update

We currently have **83 members** on our roster for the year! From races to socials to cruises, attendance has been strong and the energy high. It's a great time to dive in. Come to an event, shake some hands, and make the most of what BCSA has to offer!

**Thank you,**

**Elizabeth Starnes**

Membership/Treasurer

## Race Report

The Fall Series begins **Saturday, July 27** and runs through the end of October, with a total of 6 races on the calendar. Join in, whether you're racing hard or just learning the ropes. Full schedule here: [Fall Series Race Calendar](#)

Big congratulations to all who participated in the Spring Series! For complete results, see: [Spring Race Results](#)

And don't forget: the **Great River Race Regatta** is tentatively scheduled for the **first full moon in October (October 17)**. It's the longest inland river race in the country — a 24-hour, ~65-mile adventure that's not for the faint of heart. Mark your calendars!

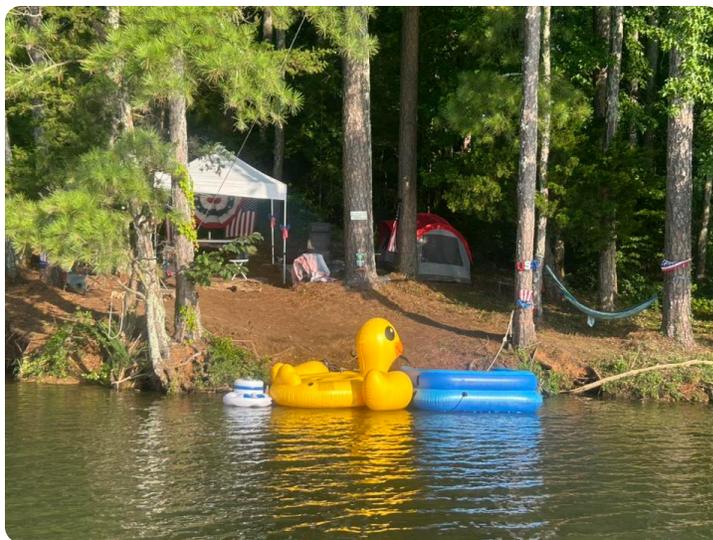
**Let's race,**  
**Ken Atchinson**  
Race Chair

## ***Fourth of July Island Takeover: BCSA Goes Full Castaway (But with Ribs)***

When you're looking to escape the chaos of a holiday weekend on the lake, most people try to find a quiet cove or anchor out early. But if you're **Mitch and Ashley France**, you think a little bigger. Like... island-sized.



Main Island Setup



Close-Up of the Chaos

That's right, this dynamic duo staked their claim on a slice of lake real estate, cleared a spot, hauled out a grill, and invited a few friends. You know, just a chill little cookout on a private island. Until **BCSA** caught wind and crash-landed the party—literally.

It turned into the kind of impromptu gathering that feels like a cross between a Jimmy Buffett song and a summer camp fever dream: ribs, burgers, corn on the cob, a rope swing, a giant inflatable duck named (we assume) *Quack Nicholson*.

We swam, we ate, we laughed, we grounded—some of us more than once. And as the sun set on our temporary kingdom, we motored home to the glow of fireworks in

the sky and blue lights on the water—because nothing says *freedom* like dodging the law while covered in BBQ sauce.

Thanks, Mitch and Ashley, for hosting what may now be known as the **First Annual BCSA Island Takeover**.