

Good evening, and happy first week of October!

Hopefully, the heat of the summer months will begin to give way to some milder temperatures, cooler evenings, and crisper air...ahhhh! You can *feel* it. Change is in the air!

Despite the heat and humidity of the summer and early fall, LCSA continued to have fantastic turnouts to our social events, Full Moon Dinner Cruises, and our weekly Thursday evening races.

However, the best news I have to share is that our club keeps growing and we continue to welcome new sailors to join in on our activities!

On that note, please join me in welcoming the following new members, who have joined LCSA in September (and in August...sorry, folks, I left you out of the September newsletter)

August New Members:

Jenny Lee

Katie Patterson

David Valero-Coggins

Nicholas Berryman

September New Members:

Jim + Sydney Beers

Timothy + Stephanie Means

Chris Pruitt + Jamie Eustace

And also, please join me in wishing the members below the happiest of birthdays!

October Birthdays:

10/17 Don Rickwalt

10/22 Debby Ehrhart

10/25 Timothy Means

10/26 Mabel Moulds

10/27 Joan Rickwalt

10/27 Charlie Wilson

10/29 John Wilson

10/31 Robert Colosino *Happy Halloween!*

From the Commodore:

This is our last race month, but we still have some holiday activities in the offing. Our Christmas party will be Thursday, Dec.1. I will send out more details this week.

Saturday, December 10th is our Christmas boat parade. We had three boats decorated last year we hope to see more this year. We have a few races left. I want to thank Gerrit for doing an excellent job as Race coordinator. It is a big job, but he does it well. Get ready to enjoy the holidays.

Clear sailing,
-John Moulds

From the Vice Commodore:

We continue to have a banner turnout for our weekly Thursday racing. Thanks go out to the racing teams, committee boat crew, and Gerrit, Race Coordinator for an exciting race season so far this year. I think the mix-up of race courses has made the racing more exciting and added new challenges to the event. Good job Gerrit. With cooler temperatures hope to see this interest last through the end of our racing season.

Hurricane season weather is still active and the forecast called for an above-average activity. It might be a good time to check dock lines, mooring, boat covers, and the like to ensure our boats are ready to handle adverse weather.

Remember: We Can't Direct the Wind but We Can Adjust the Sails.

-Bob Lenhart

From the Secretary:

While this will be our last newsletter of the 2022 racing season, it will not be the last newsletter of the year.

During our off-season, I'll be continuing to write the newsletter to keep everyone up to date with the goings-on of our club.

Even though our races will be done for the year after our October 27th race, we still have a Christmas boat parade and a Christmas party to enjoy together.

Anna Mode has put in a lot of work to ensure we have a nice venue to enjoy one another's company as we reminisce about the past year and enthusiastically talk about the year to come.

Also, we have a Long Moonlight Sail coming up on Monday, October 10th at 6pm. So, even though we'll be done racing, that doesn't mean we're done with on-the-water activities!

-Gerrit Rickwalt

From the Treasurer:

Please refer back to John Moulds' email of Wednesday, September 28th, regarding the increase in club dues (*editor*)

-Anna Mode

From the Activities Coordinator:

Long Moonlight Sail - Monday, October 10th (6:00 pm) - details to follow later this week (*editor*).

-John Davis

From the Race Coordinator:

Any appreciable gains we received in terms of lake levels from August's rains seem to have been lost over September's *lack* of rain.

Currently, Lake Conroe is down by about 2.05 feet. It was pretty weird seeing Bird Island with a beach!

Be sure to check out this link with the current Lake Conroe pool elevations and historical lake levels:

<http://conroe.uslakes.info/Level.asp>

(*Thanks for the link, Jim Hall!*)

September was an *AWESOME* month of racing!

We tried out *THREE* new courses in September (a two-leg course north of the lighthouse, a "racetrack" where half the course was north of the lighthouse and half was south, and a three-leg course north of the lighthouse).

In September, we also started using Time on Time (ToT) handicapping, instead of Time on Distance (ToD) that we had used in the Spring and Summer Series.

The addition of these new courses and scoring method has added a little bit of variety to our course repertoire, while keeping our standard two-leg "Ayers Island course" kept things familiar.

I'd say we did a pretty good job balancing the new with the old!

Attached at the end of this newsletter is the October wind rose for Lake Conroe. The wind rose shows that we should expect the wind to be from the southeast about 2/3 of the month and from the north-northeast about 1/3 of the month.

Below are the top 5 standings, as of the September 29th race:

- 1) Dave Hopkins - "Phone" - 52 points (3 first-place finishes)
- 2) Josh Terry - "Razzledash" - 38 points
- 3) Robbie Colosino - "Bramasol" - 37 points
- 4) John Barnes - "Jay Bee" - 31 points
- 5) Mike Hallett - "That's What She Said" - 25 points (1 first-place finish)

Be sure to sign up for the Committee Boat sometime during each series. We need at least 1 captain and one helper to set the marks.

Thank you to our Committee Boat crews for signing up and helping set up the courses and run our races!

September's Committee Boat crews were:

Josh Terry, Matt Baker, Dick Morton, Gerrit Rickwalt, Steve LaHaie, John Moulds, David Valero-Coggins, Nick Berryman, Nicholas Sargent, Timothy Means, Bob Lenhart, and Anna Mode. Thank you for all of your help!

Crew sign-up procedure:

The crew and Committee Boat sign-up procedure is running smoothly. Thank you all for helping make it such a big success!

If you're interested in crewing...don't be shy! Go to the website and sign up...there are always skippers looking for people to crew.

By now everyone should have a parking pass for the Thursday night races. If you do not have a pass yet, please let the Race Coordinator (Gerrit Rickwalt) know and he will email you one. All you have to do is print it out and place it on the dashboard of your vehicle on Thursday nights.

Please note that this parking pass is for Thursday night races only.

I've also included a parking pass as an attachment on this newsletter.

If you haven't created your RaceQs account yet, it's not too late! It's free, it's helpful, and it's fun!

If you have RaceQs questions, please let Gerrit Rickwalt know.

<https://raceqs.com/>

See you on the course!

-Gerrit Rickwalt

From the Education Coordinator:

I'd like to see how much demand there is for a sail trim training class on the water. It will be on a Saturday and on a boat with a handout and demonstrations. We could also do it on a Sunday afternoon. There will be no cost to club members. If there is enough interest, there will be a morning and afternoon class that will last about 1 ½ hours. The date and time have not been set, but I would like people to let me know if they are interested.

Please email me at psaltshaker@juno.com.

Speaking of sails, please enjoy this video regarding asymmetrical spinnakers:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qpfAamc1uD0>

It is the link to a YouTube article about flying an asymmetrical spinnaker. I like it because the couple talks about the value and ease of an asymmetric spinnaker when shorthanded.

They also talk about using a pole on the tack line to be able to sail more downwind.

-Dick Morton

What were our members up to in September?

September was also the Micro-Mainframe Distance regatta, hosted by LCSA member, Dave Hopkins (Skipper of J/29, "Phone")

There were sailors from around the lake who participated, including CYC members, LCSA members, and sailors unaffiliated with a club.

LCSA had a good showing of racers and everyone had a great time during the race, despite the high temperatures and light winds.

Thanks again everyone for making Lake Conroe Sailing Association such a fun, welcoming, and enriching club!

We'd also especially like to thank **Jeff Taggart** of [Southern Empress Cruises](#) for all of his continued support for our club and our members!

Thanks again for a great month of sailing and activities!

Have a happy, fun, and safe Halloween, and we look forward to seeing you all out on the water!

Sincerely,

-Your LCSA Board,

*John Moulds, Bob Lenhart, Anna Mode, John Davis, Dick Morton, Gerrit Rickwalt
(editor)*

Attachments:

LCSA Thursday night racing parking pass

Lake Conroe wind rose for the month of October