

August was a strange month, as was most of the summer. For most of the summer and the early part of August, we had virtually no rain. It was hot and stifling.

The lake levels were down and the grass was dry, brown, and crunchy.

Then school started back and so did the rain...lots of it!

On the race course, this resulted in a few races having to be canceled, including our first race of September, which was also the first race of the Fall Series!

Now, after a few good weeks of soaking rain, yards are green again, the lake is near normal, and evening temperatures are back into the "refreshing" range!

Still, through the sadistic heat and busy summer schedules, LCSA members continued to show up regularly for our Thursday night races and monthly social activities, which included learn-to-sail classes (our *SECOND* in a single-year!), Full Moon Dinner Cruise, and the annual Parrot Head party.

Keep it up, everyone!

Our club is doing great, and is doing great things!

Read on to discover the exciting events we have planned in September as well as the Summer Racing Series recap.

Thanks again, everyone, for a fantastic summer on the lake! Let's toll into fall with that same spirit and enthusiasm and keep promoting the enjoyment of sailing on Lake Conroe!

August birthdays:

9/1 Buddy Simons

9/7 Bob Lenhart

9/22 Tim Evans

9/23 Bill Worsham

From the Commodore:

Fall is here. You can tell, it's not 100 degrees anymore! We have a great fall race season starting Sept. 1. The moonlight sail (9/13), a small boat event (9/17) and a sail trim class (9/24) round out September's activities. Next year's board election is coming up in December. The position of secretary has no candidate. We are also looking for someone interested in the activity coordinators position. If you are interested in either position, please inform a member of the current board. All positions are open for election. If you wish to run for any position, please inform a member of the current board.

Clear sailing!

-John Moulds

From the Vice Commodore:

September will be a busy month for the club. More racing and new club activities. Check the club event calendar for the event schedules. Looking forward to these event and meeting some of the new members I haven't yet.

-Bob Lenhart

From the Secretary:

The Lake Conroe Sailing Association website has had some additions to it that I think you will enjoy and find useful,

There is a "MORE" tab on the home page which now includes links to our Facebook page, our YouTube page, and the RaceQs homepage.

Also included are the archived LCSA newsletters, our current racecourses, and a list of the LCSA racing handicaps.

Also, if you are looking to buy, sell, donate, or trade any sailing-related equipment, let me know and I can include it at the end of the August newsletter along with your contact information so that members can contact you directly.

And if you have anything club-related or of interest to the membership that you'd like included in the newsletter, please let me know and I'll try and include it in the August newsletter.

-Gerrit Rickwalt

From the Treasurer:

Please remember to update your online membership forms if you have any information that has changed (e.g. email address, phone numbers, home address).

Also, be sure to add your birthday info so we can give you a shout-out!

-Anna Mode

From the Activities Coordinator:

Upcoming social events:

Tuesday, September 13 - Full Moon Dinner Cruise to Monty's Lighthouse (6:30 pm)

Saturday, September 17 - Small Boat "Messabout" on Lake Woodlands (1:00 pm)

Saturday, September 24 - Sail Trim Class aboard *Press to MECO*, at Bentwater (10:30 am).

<https://lakeconroesailing.com/socials>

-John Davis

From the Race Coordinator:

August was an uncomfortably hot month, but that didn't stop our die-hard racers from making it out to race each week!

August was also the last month of our Summer Racing Series and, despite the heat, we got in some great races! The series was very close all summer and we executed a variety of courses to keep things interesting and challenging.

I'll be sending out a separate email with race instructions and scoring (we'll be using Time on Time scoring for the fall).

The threat of bad weather required the last-minute cancellation of 3 of our races, but also demonstrated the efficiency of the bulk-texting app, as well as the reliability of handheld VHF radios.

On that note, thank you for signing up for the phone bulk-texting list. That will help me effectively communicate with you on the racecourse in the event of a sudden, unexpected cancellation or change to the race. I'll be sending out a test text this week to ensure I have everyone accounted for.

Attached at the end of this newsletter is the September wind rose for Lake Conroe. In September, we're expecting the wind to be from the southeast the majority of the time, with 44.6% of the winds being "calm" (less than 2 mph). Our September wind patterns should be fairly close to those from August.

Speaking of weather...if you'd like to take an online SKYWARN Storm Spotter class, you can follow this link:

https://www.meted.ucar.edu/education_training/course/23

Later in the fall, the National Weather Service will be hosting an in-person class. Anyone who spends time on the water (especially sailors) would benefit from the class. I'll provide updates when the in-person class is announced.

!Race time change!

Due to sunsets beginning to get earlier, we are moving the race start times to **5:30 pm**, beginning with the September 15th race.

Summer Series final standings:

- 1) Peter Mason - "Hole Shot" - 76 points (5 first-place finishes)**
- 2) Josh Terry - "Razzledash" - 63 points (3 first-place finish)**
- 3) Pat Tabet - "Press to MECO" - 61 points (1 first-place finish)**
- 4) Steve LaHaie - "Runaway" - 57 points**
- 5) John Barnes - "Jay Bee" - 52 points**

Please 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! Remember, we need a minimum of two people on the Committee Boat for each race. Without Committee Boat crews to set the marks and record the times, we don't have a race.

The Summer Series' Committee Boat crews were:

John Davis, Gerrit Rickwalt, Steve White, Dave Hopkins, Victor Scammel, John Moulds, Bob Lenhart, Buddy Simons, Joan Rickwalt, Josh Terry, John Barnes, Jimmy Jones, Tami Riner, and Anna Mode. Thanks, again for all of your help!

Be sure to bring your 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:

Members - Our first sail trim class will be on Saturday, September 24 from 10:30 to 11:59. We will be using Pat Tabet's J29 (press to MECO) which can hold 11 people. It is docked at Bentwater so Pat will have to give you permission to enter the front gate if you want to join us. If there is enough interest, we may have another class either later that day or on a different day. I will cover a 2-page matrix (handout) that I have created to show the effect of trim for the jib and main for various wind and sea conditions. Please email me at psaltshaker@juno.com if you would like to participate in this class. I will need your name and cell phone number. We will still go if there is no wind. If conditions are not safe to sail, we'll

postpone it for another time.

-Dick Morton

BUY/SELL/TRADE / LOOKING / ANNOUNCEMENTS:

-Dave Hopkins (you may know him from his boat, the spring-series winning J/29 "Phone") is coordinating the Micro-Mainframe Distance Regatta, which will be held on Saturday, September 10th. The Notification of Regatta is attached in full at the end of this newsletter.

The Micro-Mainframe Distance Regatta is the oldest, still-running regatta on Lake Conroe (first held in 1987).

If you have any questions, would like to help out, or are interested in participating, please respond directly to Dave Hopkins at: j29phone@gmail.com

Thanks again everyone for making Lake Conroe Sailing Association such a fun, welcoming, and enriching club, and thanks again for a great month of sailing and activities!

Sincerely,

Your LCSA Board,

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

Attachments:

Micro-Mainframe Distance Regatta Notice Of Regatta

LCSA Thursday night racing parking pass

Lake Conroe wind rose for the month of September