

# New Castle Sailing Club

## N E W S L E T T E R

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### Commodore's Corner

The big news this month was the great storm of June 2<sup>nd</sup>, with sustained winds of 52 mph, and a recorded gust of 76 mph....pretty impressive for a thunderstorm! In the recent past, storms like this have resulted in significant

damage to the fleet – in 2003 and 2004 we sustained storm-related damage of \$8000 and \$4000 respectively. This prompted one of our sailor-engineers, Ben Bell, to devise a system for keeping the masts afloat after capsized....now affectionately known as “the noodle.” This was the first real test of the noodles – and they came

through with flying colors! Despite 5 capsizes, there was no damage to the Thistles other than lost spar flies.

Our Red Stripe Flying Scot, which has a much heavier rig than a Thistle, did get stuck in the mud and sustained irreparable damage to its mast. The engineers are now thinking of ways to make the Scot masts more buoyant without sacrificing performance. A new mast was ordered to replace the one that was lost, and an insurance claim was filed.

Thank you again to all those who came to help rescue the boats that day. We are in the process of putting in place a better system for notifying club members in the event of an emergency similar to this one. The plan is to have 2 or 3 board members as the primary emergency contacts, with the ability to send text messages to members' cell phones. Combined with phone calls and email, we hope this will facilitate faster communication to more members. Look for details coming soon from Mike Hennessey, who is coordinating this effort.

Our newly refurbished Scot #2906 is just about ready for launch. It went from being the sorriest looking boat of the fleet to a thing of beauty, thanks to the efforts of Phil Iannelli, John Ingram, and the rest of the Scot crew. Phil has put together a great overview on how to properly rig the Scots which is included in this newsletter and also posted on the web site. The jib sheets have a 2-to-1 purchase on them now – a great feature - but are a little trickier to rig. There are a few other improvements that are reviewed as well.

The Separation Day festivities in Battery Park last weekend were graced with many club members proudly wearing their blue Sailing Club T-shirts. Red Stripe Thistle looked great decorated in its parade finery and attracted a lot of attention in both the parade and at the festival following, and we had several prospective members visit our booth. The weather took a turn for the worse around 3PM, and after riding out the first downpour with 9 of us squeezed under the little canopy, we decided that with another storm on the horizon, it was time to go home. I want to thank Mari Tyler, Robin Hegvik, John Ingram, Don & Maria Grant, Dave Koppeser, Earl McMaster, Brownell Ferry, Jim Tait, Norm Yoerg, Kathy Leef, Louise Eliason, Sally Rusk, Dawn & Ray Majewski, Larry Giglio, Veronica Kegel-Coon, and Jack Ziegler for their volunteer efforts at the parade and festival, and also Tom Bayliss for organizing the first-ever all-Scot Separation Day Regatta.

Our next big event will be the Frank E. Nelson Memorial Charity Regatta to benefit the March of Dimes on July 25<sup>th</sup>. I encourage all members – whether you are a racer or not – to come out participate in this fun event that benefits a great cause. We will be inaugurating a new

perpetual trophy as a tribute to Frank Nelson, who organized this event for many years. We would really like bring in some visiting boats this year, so if you know of someone at another local club (Marsh Lake, Northeast, etc.), or just an individual with a small boat, please invite them to join us. The notice of race and other information is on our web site. We also have another Holiday Cruise coming up this month on Friday July 3<sup>rd</sup> starting at 10AM. Don Hurst will be your cruise director – look for more details by email.

As a parting note, just a reminder to take care of the small things that need to be fixed on the boats – don't just assume the boat captain or the next person will take care of it. I hope to see you on the water – lots of good sailing opportunities await!

*Nancy Peffer*  
*Commodore*



### Welcome new members!

Please welcome our newest members, who have joined us within the last month:

Louise Eliason  
Chuck and Pat Shorten  
Jean, Peter, and Josh Buzzard  
Jay Cotton

Glad to have you aboard!



### Upcoming events:

Fri. July 3 <sup>rd</sup>	10AM - 2PM	"4 <sup>th</sup> " of July Cruise
Sat. July 25 <sup>th</sup>	10AM - 3PM 4 – 7PM	Charity Regatta Dinner and silent auction
Sat. Aug. 15 <sup>th</sup>	1:30 – 5	Founders Day Regatta

## CHARITY REGATTA- JULY 25th

Be sure to mark your calendars for the Charity Regatta- Saturday July 25th- about 6 weeks from now. Area yacht/sailing clubs have been invited and members are encouraged to BYOB. Long ago there were 20 boats competing and we should top that number this year. The first regatta was held in 1987. Frank Nelson organized the event each year from 1987 to 2003 and raised more than \$12,000 to benefit the March of Dimes. This year the club has renamed the event as the Frank Nelson Memorial Charity Regatta to honor Frank and his years of dedication. We need the club's support and participation to make the Regatta a big success. Mrs. Nelson and a representative from the March of Dimes will be attending the dinner and awards ceremony.

### General schedule

**Friday-** volunteers needed to set up the barn for dinner

**Saturday- 8:30-9:30-** registration, crew assignments, launching of visiting boats

**10:00--** Skippers' meeting

**10:30- 3pm--** race, race, and more races

**4:30-** BBQ dinner

**6:30-** Lively, entertaining live auction

**8:30-** Awards presentation

Volunteers are needed to donate food items for the BBQ dinner; and also members can donate items for the auction. Contact Kathy Leef-- [khleef@verizon.net](mailto:khleef@verizon.net) or Chris Poulouin -- [poulouinc@comcast.net](mailto:poulouinc@comcast.net) for volunteering for KP duty or help with the dinner/auction. And contact Tom Bayliss-- [thompsonbayliss@yahoo.com](mailto:thompsonbayliss@yahoo.com) for racing. See you there....

*Kathy Leef*  
Vice-Commodore



## RACING !

### SEPARATION DAY -- DEPTULA AND CREW TAKE THE TITLE

Congratulations to Red Team Captain Dave Deptula and his hearty band of Chris Poulouin, Mike Hennessy, Kathy Leef, Lorna Lee and Kevin Foley. Red Team stormed off with the Separation Day Trophies after besting the Blue Team in the New Castle Sailing Club's first match racing series in recent history. Both teams began talking up their game before they hit the water in a familiar show of America's Cup class bravado. Blue Team Captain Tilo Stahl and his team of Earl McMaster, Sally Rusk, Louise Eliason, Jack Ziegler and Khalid Ibrahim were slightly favored heading into the contest. Commentators thought

### Memorial Day Cruise

The weather for the Memorial Day Cruise was nearly perfect, sunny and southwesterly winds at about 12 mph, with some gusts early in the day and then steadying at about 10 mph by midday (I'm guessing the wind speeds here). We had a total of four boats on the water – two Flying Scots skippered by Jim Casey and Don Hurst, each with a crew of six, and two Thistles skippered by Dan Rakus and Tilo Stahl (me). The Scots had some friends and family on board, and six new members (if you can count Veronica and Larry as new) participated in the cruise.

We got off to a relatively late start, while the Scot skippers mastered the intricacies of the new rigging. We then sailed south and got as far as the pylons before hunger pangs drove us back to the moorings. We all had a picnic back at Battery Park.

It was a great opportunity for new members to get out on the water, get to know the boats, spend some time at the tiller, and get to know other members.

*Tilo Stahl*  
"Cruise Director"



Captain Stahl's unmatched experience in heavy air would combine well with the aggressive style of tactician McMaster.

The start of Race One appeared to justify the hype. Red Team squandered its starboard side entry and only engaged Blue Team late in the sequence well below the starting line. The current played a huge roll in the 4-5kt breeze from the east north east, and it swept both boats back as they maneuvered for advantage. Blue Team won the start by a twenty-length margin after turning first for the line and accelerating away. But in an unorthodox move, Blue Team decided not to cover. Instead, Captain Stahl and his crew headed left towards the ice breakers

to get out of the current. Red Team rejoiced in the separation. Captain Deptula and crew opted for the better pressure on the right, and they were rewarded. Just below the top mark, both boats brought the race back into the center, with Blue Team slicing back on port, and Red Team charging back into the race on starboard. "We're back in the game baby," shouted Chris Poulouin, as Red Team forced Blue Team to tack away to port. But it wouldn't stick. Instead of driving Blue Team past the layline and then tacking for the mark, Deptula and crew tacked early and let Blue Team out of the stranglehold. Worse yet, the raging current forced Red Team to tack to starboard again to make the mark, and Blue Team pounced with a killer lee-bow. Again Red Team tacked to make the mark, but again they couldn't make it. And this time, Blue Team was around and had their kite up in a flash. When Red Team finally rounded, Captain Deptula shook his head in disgust: "I just threw it away!, I threw it away!" But miracles sometimes come in twos. Blue Team rounded the leeward mark well ahead, but again chose the left side of the course. Red Team chose the right, and again closed the gap and then took the lead. But the light-bulb had finally gone off on Blue Stripe Scot. Instead of heading back to the ill-fated left, Blue chose to duck Red's stern and head further right. It worked. Tacking back to starboard, Blue Team had an edge they kept to the finish.

Race Two was over almost as soon as it began. Blue Team threw away its starboard tack advantage by sailing high and declining the engagement when the boats entered the starting box. Anxious to avenge their loss in Race One, Red Team was not going to let this sin go unpunished. At a minute to go, Red Team headed back on starboard and aimed straight for Blue, who seemed oblivious to the danger. I guess Blue Team thought they could make it? At the last second, Red Team avoided contact and announced their protest. The judges gave Blue Team the penalty. Red Team never looked back.

Race Three could have ended the same way. Once again, Red Boat went hunting on starboard, and Blue Team tried to sneak past. Once again, the judges assessed a penalty against Blue Team. Blue Team quickly exonerated themselves and tried again to sneak past, this time by diving down low. At the last second, just when Red Team could have ended the contest by drawing yet another foul, they let Blue Team go past. "I knew they didn't have the nerve to do it again," said Stahl. Moments later, the competitors hit the starting line simultaneously, and they rounded the windward mark within a boat length of each other. Then the wind died. But that didn't stop Red Boat, who seemed to be propelled by some mysterious force. While Blue Team tried hot angles and everything else under the sun, Red Team stretched away to a fifty boat length lead with a drooping spinnaker. And then everything stopped

completely for forty minutes. The Race Committee appealed to both competitors, but neither would concede the race. It was maddening. Then, suddenly, the wind was back, and Blue Team had it first. Slowly, and then more quickly, they began closing the gap. Thirty boat lengths, twenty, fifteen, five.... But there just wasn't enough time. Red Boat suddenly had the breeze too, and they were around the leeward mark just ahead. Five minutes later, Red Boat took the final race and the title.

Thanks to all the competitors for being such good sports, and to our incredibly patient Race Committee, headed by Norm Yoerg and Len Saari.

Tom Bayliss  
Racing Director



## NCSC Summer Series Race Results 2008

**Separation Day - June 14,  
2008**

Chair: Norm Yoerg    Driver: Len Saari    Assistant: Tom Bayliss

Boat	Captain	Crew	Crew	Crew	Crew	Crew	Race 1	Race 2	Race 3	Total	# Races	Avg
Red Stripe Scot	Dave Deptula	Chris Poulouin	Mike Hennessy	Kathy Leef	Lorna Lee	Kevin Foley	2	1	1	4	3	1.3
Blue Stripe Scot	Tilo Stahl	Earl McMaster	Sally Rusk	Louise Eliason	Jack Ziegler	Khalid Ibrahim	1	2	2	5	3	1.7

## NCSC Novice Series Race Results 2008

**Novice Series # 1 - May 23,  
2009**

Chair: Scott Latham    Driver: Khalid Ibrahim    Assistant:

Boat	Skipper	Crew	Crew	Race 1	Race 2	Race 3	Total	# Races	Avg
3972	Jeff Mitchell	Chris Annand		2	1	1	4	3	1.3
3791	Scott Buehler	Chris Poulouin		1	2	2	5	3	1.7
3881	Mike Hennessy	Earl McMaster	Louise Eliason	4	4	3	11	3	3.7
3858	Dick Ebersole	Dick Harrison	Tom Foster	3	5	4	12	3	4.0
4012	Trish Cavender	Ken Cavender	Dave Deptula	6	3	5	14	3	4.7
3902	Bill Davis	Jack Zeigler		5	NA	NA	5	1	5.0
3902	Jack Ziegler	Bill Davis		NA	6	6	12	2	6.0

## NCSC Spring Series Race Results 2009

### Spring Series # 1 - May 16, 2009

Chair: Lorna Lee    Driver: Tina Deptula    Assistant: None

Boat	Skipper	Crew	Crew	Race 1	Race 2	Race 3	Race 4	Race 5	Total	# Races	AVG
3827	Dick Harrison	Dick Ebersole	Khalid Ibrahim	3	1	1	1	3	9	5	1.8
3927	Earl McMaster	Danielle Bower		1	3	N/A	N/A	N/A	4	2	2.0
3972	Dave Deptula	Danny Rakus		2	4	2	3	1	12	5	2.4
3881	Tom Bayliss	Mike Hennessy		4	2	3	2	2	13	5	2.6
4012	Tilo Stahl	Amy Micka		DNF	5	4	DNF	N/A	20	4	5.0

### Spring Series # 2 - May 30, 2009

Chair: Nancy Pepper    Driver: Jack Ziegler    Assistant: None

Boat	Skipper	Crew	Crew	Race 1	Race 2	Race 3	Race 4	Total	# Races	AVG
3858	Tom Bayliss	Trish Cavender	Khalid Ibrahim	1	3	1	1	6	4	1.5
3972	Scott Buehler	Chris Annand		N/A	1	N/A	2	3	2	1.5
3972	Chris Annand	Scott Buehler		3	N/A	3	N/A	6	2	3
4012	Dick Harrison	Lisa Matthews	Jay Cotton	2	2	5	4	13	4	3.25
3827	Earl McMaster	Jeff Mitchell	Danielle Bower	5	4	N/A	3	12	3	4
3881	Mike Berninger	Dick Ebersole		4	5	2	5	16	4	4
3927	Norm Yoerg	Jim Tait		N/A	N/A	4	7	11	2	5.5
3827	Jeff Mitchell	Earl McMaster	Danielle Bower	N/A	N/A	6	N/A	6	1	6
3902	Chris Poulouin	Ann Loyle		6	6	7	6	25	4	6.25
3927	Jim Tait	Norm Yoerg		7	7	N/A	N/A	14	2	7

**Spring Series # 3 - June 6, 2009**

Chair: Jeff Mitchell    Driver: Kathy Leaf    Assistant: Danielle Bower

Boat	Skipper	Crew	Crew	Race 1	Race 2	Race 3	Total	# Races	AVG
3827	Tom Bayliss	Mike Hennessy	Dick Ebersole	1	3	N/A	4	2	2.0
3881	Chris Poulouin	Lisa Matthews	Tom (Guest)	6	1	1	8	3	2.7
3827	Mike Hennessy	Tom Bayliss	Dick Ebersole	N/A	N/A	3	3	1	3.0
3927	Scott Buehler	Sally Rusk	Chris Hamilton	2	2	5	9	3	3.0
3858	Kevin Foley	Ben Foley	Kristine Augstedt	5	4	2	11	3	3.7
3902	Nancy Pepper	Louise Eliason	Bill Davis	4	5	4	13	3	4.3
4012	Earl McMaster	Jack Ziegler	Mike Keenan	3	DNF	N/A	10	2	5.0



**The stern view**



Crab men on Delaware River encounter new dangers

