

TELL TALE

August 1994

The Columbia Sailing Club

At the Helm

Tom Lehrer said it. "Don't drink the water, and don't breathe the air." Well, it's not quite that bad, but please be careful with the club water supply until we can get the well fixed. **Mace Coleman** had the water tested, and they found some nasty little bacteria that shouldn't have been there.

Summer has settled in at the club. The temperature is high, and so is the humidity. Occasional thunderstorms with dock damage. The steady drone of activity on the beach. The front porch rockers and conversation going. Skippers taking their boats out to play with the breeze or to look for some. Things are reasonably quiet.

Two very recent events have given me pause. We were in the July 6th Board of Stewards meeting when **Eddie Wilkins** called to say that he was not there because he had just put his wife, Linda, in the hospital with heart trouble. Fortunately, she did not have to stay long, and is out and about again. For those of you who do not

know, Linda took me under her wing when I became the commodore. Since then she has fussed over me and fussed at me to make sure that everything was done right. So now, **Linda Wilkins**, in front of the club membership I give you my heartfelt thanks.

The second event is more somber. I was awaked the morning of July 23rd with the news that my friend, **Ken Bost**, had died the night before in an automobile accident in North Carolina. Ken should have been writing this column instead of me. He was just before moving from Rear Commodore to Vice Commodore when he was transferred to North Carolina. I was asked to step in for Ken and became the Vice Commodore while he took an apartment in N.C. and drove back and forth. Ken hated giving up his service to the club. He hated being away from his family that much. And he hated that drive. But he never really complained. He really should have been writing this column. It really makes you stop and think. Good bye, Ken, we'll miss you.

JC

Cheap Date takes Overnight

Undaunted by Mother's Nature's light show, sound effects or water works, over 20 boats started the LMYRA 1994 Overnight Race on Friday, July 22. A summer squall that blew through early Friday evening managed to break CSC's #3 dock, but did not delay Race Committee from getting to the course and starting the race on time. The reverse start lasted over two hours from 8 PM until just after 10 PM.

The first few hours of the 48 mile race was sailed in a drizzle that was just enough to get the foulies out or not quite wet enough to bother with the gear. The clouds cleared by the early hours of the morning, revealing the full moon. Those still awake enjoyed sailing Lake Murray at her finest.

A mere 10 hours and 55 minutes from the start of the race, **Craig Milling** on *Cheap Date* crossed the finish line, followed closely by **Cunningham/Haltiwanger** on *Cygnets*. **Gary Hodo** on *Bandito* was third.



Bandito Wins National Championship

Catalina 25's are not usually considered road warriors -- being a bit over weight, wide in the beam, and a tad laid back. But Lake Murray does not have the average Catalina 25 fleet. A challenge of national proportion was issued and accepted by three Skippers. They began their preparations this past spring by rounding up trailers, putting on new bottoms and tweaking the whatchmacallits.

When all was sanded and tweaked, **Gary Hodo, Bob Bond** and **Frank McKinnon** hit the road in late June with their boats in tow. They had their goals in mind -- to go to Lake Norman, win the Catalina 25 National Championship and bring it back to Columbia. The competition included not only Lake Norman's best but two determined boats from Colorado. One of which was last year's champion and one with a four time National Champ as crew.

The Columbia boats opted not to sail practice races on Monday, letting the competition wonder what they were up against. A win in the first race on Tuesday lulled the local favorite into a false sense of security. The Columbia boats were just getting comfortable in their new surroundings. By the second race they began giving lessons. *Bandito's* favorite subject was "The Horizon Job."

Lake Norman provided the contestants a wide variety of winds from light air on day one, to 12 to 15 knots on day two, and drifters on day three. In most conditions the Lake Murray group dominated their division, if not the fleet, that included spinnaker, genoa and cruising divisions.

LMYRA Couple's Race

The annual LMYRA Couple's Race was sailed on July 15. The winds were a steady 12 knots at the beginning of the reverse start and held through most of the leg to Spence Island. But as the last boats were approaching the island, the breeze began to pull a disappearing act.

First to cross the finish was **Frank McKinnon's** Catalina 25. Second went to **Dave** and **Marybeth Mahrer**. In third place was **Leroy** and **Jan Smith**.



In 4 of the 6 races places one through three were Lake Murray boats. One frustrated Lake Norman sailor asked, "Why did you all come all the way up here to race each other?"

Gary Hodo with crew **Dave Mahrer** and **Sue Dougal** won their division with 5 points and the National Championship with a total of 5 points (five of the six races were counted). **Bob Bond** with crew **Frank Webb** and **Carr Boyd** finished second in division and overall. **Frank McKinnon** with crew **Melinda McKinnon** and **Alan Whelchel** finished fifth in division and fourth overall.

It could be the Catalina 25 is beginning to like its new identity as a Road Warrior. Next year the championships will be in Fort Worth and Gary is already trying to find the best way to get *Bandito* there. In June of 1996, Columbia Sailing Club will host the championship. You might want to think about a bottom job and a tweak of the whatchmacallits as there is a good chance there might be some Lake Norman 25's seeking revenge.

It finally happened!

Most members that have wandered into the clubhouse in recent weeks have taken a second look toward the corner. It is really there, sitting majestically on a perfectly proportioned shelf -- a *television*. **Dan Clayton** collected donations of \$10 to purchase the set. He still needs about 10 people to donate in order to break even. The shelf was constructed and installed by **George Selkinghaus**. Thanks guys.

Membership News

Welcome to Regular Membership:

James Boylston

Welcome to Provisional Membership:

Ricky Lusk

Robert Belding

Mark Hardee

Application for Membership

Thomas A. Hammill, Jr., currently living in Santa Fe, New Mexico, is retiring to Columbia. He and his wife, Norma, have one son, Eugene, age 7. They sail a Catalina 27 and are sponsored by Frank Webb.

Resigned in good standing:

Richard Wilson

Until further notice:

All motorized water craft (i.e. jet skies, wave runners, motorboats, etc.) are no longer allowed in the swimming area defined as the sandy area to the right and left of the swimming dock. Launching of motorized craft must be made at ramps #1, #2 or #3. This action is being made to ensure the safety of those using the swimming area.

CSC Y Flyer sailors bring home victories

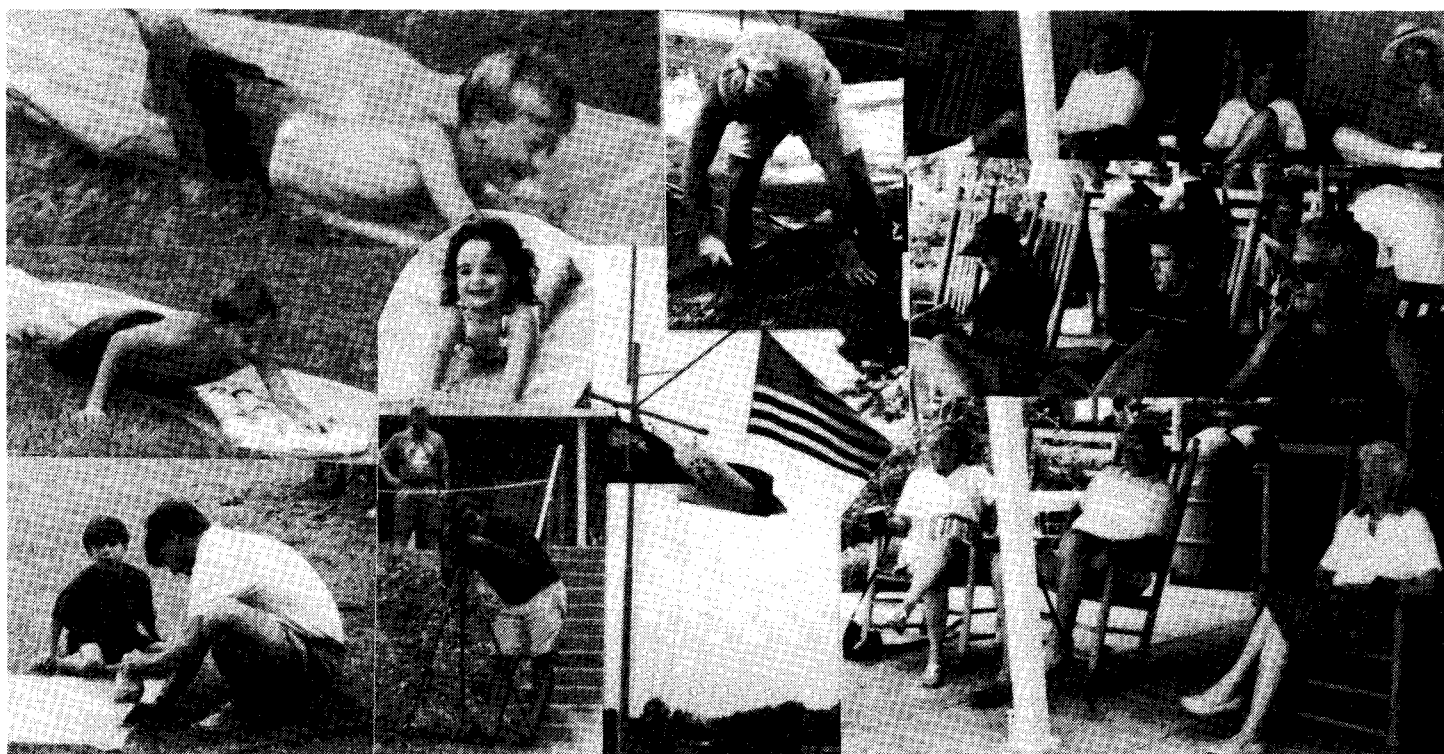
Chris Blundy was the Junior Champ at the Y Flyer National Championship in Charleston.

David and Bonnie Parshall finished fourth overall.

At the SAYRA Inshores held at Charleston Yacht Club, David and Bonnie Parshall finished first in the YFlyer fleet. Chris Blundy with crew, Bob Blundy, finished second.

Thanks to those involved with the July 4th Celebration

Many thanks to all who helped make the 4th of July celebration an enjoyable occasion. Special thanks to the pig cookers (Craig Milling, Dr. Fun, Billy Ray Davis, Bill Freeman, Carl Bauguess, George Selkinghaus.) to Dave Mahrer and Gary Hodo for arranging the flag tribute, to Mark Alexander for his professional photo services, to Leeton Davis for the notifications and to the Sunday night entertainers who added a touch of merriment to the drudgery of cooking the pig. Also, a special thanks to the ladies for the outstanding covered dishes and for helping with the cleanup. Let's do it again next year (with a few minor exceptions)! -- Skip and MaryBelle



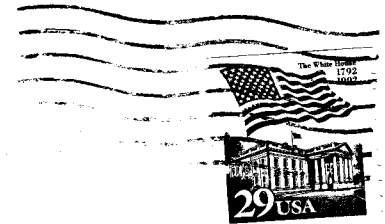
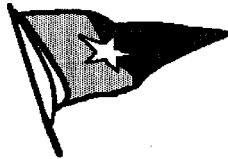
August Calendar of Events

	1	2	3 Board Meeting	4	5 Happy Hour	6
7	8	9	10	11	12 Happy Hour	13 LMYRA Evening Race
14	15	16	17	18	19 Happy Hour	20
21	22	23	24	25	26 Happy Hour	27 LMYRA Evening Race
28	29	30	31			

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