



Stevie Dickinson and Patricia Young won the Comet Class with four bullets and one throw-out race in Bacardi's 2012 Bermuda INTERNATIONAL RACE WEEK



Results on page 2.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S HELM

By the time you receive this issue of Comet Tales, you should have been out sailing and competing in your Club races or at one of the Regattas in Maryland or at Green Pond, most weekends. The Class Officers have been busy organizing the two Championship Regattas, working on the development of the new Comet hull, (see page 2) encouraging membership and tracking down the many unused boats. We'll have further information on these subjects.

It is important that everyone take an active role to encourage their fleet members to participate in club racing and to travel to a few regattas each summer. If you are not accustomed to traveling, packing up your Comet for a regatta may not seem worth the time and effort. However, to see other yacht clubs, to meet other sailors, and to compete in new challenging conditions always makes for a worthwhile learning experience.

An early season highlight was that the Comet was invited back to Bermuda Race Week. Congratulations to Stephen Dickinson for his victory over a competitive field of nine boats. Mark your calendar for early May, 2013 for fun yet challenging races in sunny Bermuda. Their hospitality is number one.

I look forward to seeing everyone on the water.

Talbott Ingram,
President, CCYRA.

2012 BERMUDA INTERNATIONAL INVITATIONAL RACE WEEK RESULTS

	Sail #	Skipper	22 Apr-12		22 Apr-12		22 Apr-12		22 Apr-12		22 Apr-12-22		Total	Drop	Final
			Pos	Pts	Pos	Pts	Pos	Pts	Pos	Pts	Pos	Pts			
1	4109	Stephen Dickinson	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	7	11	7	4
2	4113	Dimitri Stevens	4	4	4	4	4	4	2	2	1	1	15	4	11
3	4116	Tre Joinville	2	2	2	2	7	7	8	8	2	2	21	8	13
4	4128	Scott Fox	6	6	5	5	2	2	5	5	4	4	22	6	16
5	4106	Martin Finegan	5	5	3	3	6	6	6	6	3	3	23	6	17
6	4060	Colin Clarke	3	3	7	7	3	3	4	4	DNS	12	29	12	17
7	4126	Gladwin Lambert	7	7	6	6	5	5	3	3	5	5	26	7	19
8	41	Quinton Simons	8	8	8	8	8	8	7	7	6	6	37	8	29
9	4124	Antoine Wingood	9	9	DNS	12	DNS	12	DNS	12	DNS	12	57	12	45
10	4121	Dale Brangman	DNF	12	DNS	12	DNS	12	DNS	12	DNS	12	60	12	48
11	4127	Randy Bailey	DNS	12	DNS	12	DNS	12	DNS	12	DNS	12	60	12	48

THE R&D TEAM IS WORKING TOWARDS A REFINED COMET HULL



Pete Mathews, Jim Ryan, Wick Dudley and Brad Meade met at Mathews Brothers boatyard on April 27, towards finalizing details to stiffen and strengthen the hull.

The new hull will have flotation tanks, bow to stern. The curved deck of the cockpit will be more comfortable when hiking-out.

Final preparations to the deck mold are almost complete. The new deck should be out of the mold in a few weeks and they should be assembled together in July.

BEAUTIFUL GREEN POND JUNE 2



The weather in Green Pond on June 2 was perfect. Friday evening at the club was cocktails and dinner, very pleasant as always. At the end of the evening thunder storms came in with rain. The forecast was for gusty winds all night not clearing out until late morning. We awakened to bright sunshine and winds forecasted for 10 to 20. As we all rigged up the lake looked beautiful, high puffy clouds with light winds out of the SSW. With the anticipation of winds up to 20 mph the race committee set a very ambitious course, length wise. Many of us sailing around before the race were asking where the weather mark was? . . . it was on the far end of the lake! With the pin end favored all day, the boats that went off clean at the pin end were in much better positions.

With the wind at 6 to 8 and numerous holes, the first race took 1.5 hours. There were many position changes throughout the race. . . typical lake sailing. Only Bob Griswold and Rob Schell seem to have things figured out. Bob won the regatta with three firsts and Rob, with his redone and newly varnished boat, a close second. You did not want to be too close to this boat as the varnish fumes were wicked. The wind slowly built throughout the day with some gusts 16 to 18. The courses were shortened with each race, thankfully. By the 4th race we all got a little tired so the race committee sent us once around for the final race. It was a great day of racing for the beginning of Green Pond's sailing season. Their next regatta will be July 14-15. See you all there.

Wick Dudley



CORSICA RIVER Y.C. HOSTED A JOINT COMET AND LASER SPRING REGATTA – SUNDAY MAY 6

We had 7 comets and 14 Lasers and help from quite a few volunteers to make this a fun and successful day for all. The winds were light and shifty, which presented problems for race management, but they successfully managed to complete two races. It was a beautiful, warm, and sunny day but a dying easterly breeze fighting against the evolving thermal within the Corsica River resulted in unstable conditions to run a third race. The lead Comets ended the day in a 4-way tie for first place with a 5-1 (Stoney & Sam), 2-4 (Wick & Betsy), 4-2 (Reed & Pam), and 3-3 (Andy & Mathew) combinations of finishes. With the tie breaker rules, Stoney won the day, Reed took 2nd, Wick took 3rd, and rounded out 4th.

Getting back to shore by 2 pm, Craig, Michael, and Sarah Wooters already had the grill going and cooking burgers and dogs. With plenty of food and drinks, everyone enjoyed the remainder of the day talking about the tactics and strategies used during the races to include an abnormally strong ebb tide present during the racing. Must have been the “Super Moon”. Everyone is looking forward to a great Comet season.

Wick Dudley

SSA SUMMER REGATTA/MAKE-UP for the JACK PETERS SERIES JUNE 16

Five Comets turned out for a beautiful day on the Bay. The temperature was in the 70's and moderate breezes prevailed. The Race Committee set up a Modified Gold Cup course and the wind velocity held up throughout the five races. A number of shifts led to boats searching an advantage on both sides of the course. Differences between the wind and wave direction led to sailing well beyond the windward mark in order to clear it. The usual wind shifts led to frequent jibing on downward legs. The Comet sailors were pleased with their first SSA regatta of the year, in spite of sharing the course with other SSA classes.

P.D.Tasi

POS	SAIL	BOAT	SKIPPER	CREW	1	2	3	TOTAL	POS
1	4037	Bruiser	Oldak, Elliot	Best, Barbara	1	1	2	4.00	1
2	4087	Merlot	Wood, Andy	Barre, Mathew	2	3	1	6.00	2
3	4077	Alice	Rogers, Reed	Wagner, Sam	3	2	3	8.00	3
4	3864	StrutAway	Tasi, Peter	Kelly, Ridgely	5	4	4	13.00	4
5	4069	Zonker	McLean, Ed	Jackson, Terry	4	6/DNC	6/DNC	16.00	5

THE ORIGINAL JACK PETERS WAS ABANDONED—THE LUNCHEON WAS GREAT



Ridgely Kelly, CRYC



Brad Meade, Shrewsbury



Ed Mclean, SSA



St. John Martin



Tina Lauver and Reed Rogers, CRYC

The Race Committee, determined to get a race start, sent us off in light air which continued to lighten till there was no wind at all. We were towed back to SSA.

Most of the gang gathered for lunch at Eastport YC's temporary dining hall and joined in celebrating Reed's birthday, with Stoney helping to blow out the candles on the cake. It was the best part of the day!



Elliot Oldak, Tina Lauver, Ridgely Kelly, Peter Tasi, Brad Meade, Stoney Duffey Reed Rogers and Joe Lauver.

CALLING ALL COMET SAILORS >>>>> TO HELP RE-GROW THE CLASS!

Members, past and present expressed the thrill of the Comet's performance. The camaraderie is still there, both in fleet activities and traveling to regattas, including our annual Championship Events. Over the past years we have seen our class numbers decline.

Those days could be gone forever, so it's time to give some serious thought on how we can re-grow our class. Yes, there are many new classes, yet both old and new are losing participants. For our class to remain active, we need to enlist youthful adults and help them "learn the ropes". More importantly, we can help them to acquire used glass Comets, many of which are high and dry in garages, hopefully at reasonable costs.

We ask you to discuss this crucial issues with your fellow Comet sailors, present and past member, and respond with your ideas for review by the Class officers. We look forward to hearing from you. We will publish the best suggestions which could help us to determine the most effective, organized program that can succeed.

It's certainly is worth the effort.

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*Calling all Fleets:
Send us articles, race results and photos of your
Comet activities. The more you send, the more will
come back to each of you!*