

BEACH DIRT

The official newsletter of
TORONTO WINDSURFING CLUB
P.O.Box 231, 275 King St. E., Toronto, Ont., M5A 1K2
www.torontowindsurfingclub.com



SUMMER 2004

22nd Annual AROUND
TORONTO ISLANDS RACE
TWC'S

"Toronto Windsurfing Club is a not-for-profit association located in Toronto's Outer Harbour, managed by volunteer members and dedicated to safe, friendly and enjoyable windsurfing for all members. Our focus is to promote and facilitate recreational and competitive windsurfing from beginners to seasoned sailors." (TWC Mission Statement)

MAMMOTH

MARATHON

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 12, 2004

See page 5 for details



Follow Olympic Windsurfing... Aug 14-28, www.sailing.org



WIND and MO WND...HATTERAS EXPEDITION SPRING 2004 (B Qreporting)
 Fifteen straight days of shortboardable wind! Over fifty TWC members and friends reveled in the glory of seemingly unending wind, mixed with sun, warm shallow water, good friends and food to create a memorable two weeks. Duke ran daily clinics for shortboarders in the first week and a "curriculum" for blossoming shortboarders has been developed for next year.

Houses are already booked for 2005. Watch the Hatteras pages on the website in September if you're interested in next year....first come, first served...space in the second week will be very limited. Fall Hatteras trips will go on the website in August.

Spelling mistake in the title? Actually MO WND is the licence plate from TWC Hatteras sailor Rudy Rawlins' car!



MISSION: TOLEDO ANNUAL WINDSURFING CHAMPIONSHIPS (Dan Les reporting)

If you were ever tempted to head to Toledo, Ohio's June race weekend, but never "pulled the trigger", don't let time or cost deter you! I arrived Saturday at 11, rigged, suited up and made the second race (one race is dropped anyway). Toledo is on the SW tip of Lake Erie (and warms in the spring earlier than Toronto), an hour south of Detroit. The race site is on the far side of Toledo in a state park. The site is large with a long beach that looks like Wasaga, with tons of parking and long grassy rigging area. The wind was light the first day, only six- seven knots, but I really enjoyed the trapezoid course (basically a square). There were about 10 Canadians and roughly 40 locals. We had a great reception after the races at a Greek Restaurant in Toledo (free draft beer included!)



Amongst the winners TWCers Stephanie Todd, Bob Shuttleworth, Andree Gauthier, Chris Hope, Dan Les

I slept in the van at a camp site I shared with two locals right in the state park (my cost...\$8 US!). Sunday had more wind making the reaching legs more fun. By 12 we were eating lunch and having awards. Canadians did well capturing six awards, including a 3rd place by yours truly. I motored back to Toronto and was home by 6 pm. Mission Toledo accomplished!

CLUBHOUSE UPDATE (Jane Tindall reporting)

Last fall the clubhouse was still only an insulated shell. By Ontario Sailing Association(OSA)'s Icebreaker event (May 22-24, 2004) we had installed windows, doors, electricity, stud walls, change rooms and the donated kitchen. Lights hung from the ceiling and donated appliances hummed quietly in the corner. Icebreaker weekend was cool and many sailors were pleased to come off the water to enjoy a cup of hot fresh coffee! How wonderful to have fridges and a microwave!

Since the Icebreaker, ceiling fans and a water pump in the kitchen have been installed. Drinking water is not available at our beach so volunteers bring in fresh water and waste water from the clubhouse must be carried out. Perhaps an opportunity to water the plants! The fireplace has now been re-installed and was a welcome addition at Boardfest (another cold weekend!).

Many thanks to the Clubhouse Committee for meeting regularly and not only planning but in many cases doing the various installation jobs. Thanks to Alan Backlund, Paul Carr, Ian Hayes, Nick Le Donne, Jon and Janis Matthews, Bill Quantock, Bob Shuttleworth, Mike and Jane Tindall. The committee will be continuing with work over the summer. Plans include the installation of wall paneling, kitchen counter and additional notice boards. If you want to help with any work connected with the clubhouse please contact Jane Tindall.

If you are the only person on the beach and planning to leave please lock the clubhouse before you go, (those still on the water can always open it again!) The view from the clubhouse is amazing, the sunsets stunning, if you haven't spent some time there, plan to do so soon.

REMI NDER: If you're last to leave, lock the shutters and the door! We were very lucky the night no one locked the shutters! Check with a Director before you bring furniture, decorations, donations for the new Clubhouse.



Toronto Windsurfing Club gratefully acknowledges the Ontario Trillium Foundation whose generous support allowed us to purchase new equipment for our Learn to Windsurf program.



Dincer shows how

CLASSES FULL, NEW INSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT FLYING HI!

Our new schedule of lessons on Saturdays and Sundays has proven so popular that some days, we have every piece of school equipment (19 boards and rigs) on the water. Simon or Dincer have taught most lessons and are paid a salary for their efforts. Andree has done all the scheduling and answering of calls. Volunteer instructors Ken, Mike and Bill, volunteers Duke, John Darling and others have added their support.

The new equipment (10 HiFlys and rigs, two Starts and rigs, all newly organized in container#8) makes learning to rig and sail smoother and the best of the old equipment still serves us well. The yellow sails are easy to spot and make supervising students on the water easier. Ken has built us a new simulator using golf balls in a plywood plate as a kind of huge ball bearing, but it spins so easily that we're afraid simulator riders may fly off onto the grass(or goose poop)!



May...first class on TWC's new Hi-Flys!



Learning to Windsurf!
The adventure begins here!

RACING WINDSURFERS (Bill Mackenzie, Jon Matthews, Bill Quantock)

You wouldn't dream of racing yourself, you have no interest in racing... ha! Every time two windsurfers sail side by side, a race occurs as you (yes you!) cheerfully try to dust your friend's butt and leave her/him in your wake...come on, admit it, you've done it! "Organized" windsurfer racing however, can be a bit bewildering. Here's our quick review with an invitation to come on down and join the fun on Wednesday nights at TWC or try the Mammoth Marathon, Outer Harbour Challenge or TWC's GPS Top Speed Challenge.

LONGBOARD RACING (3-30 knots) eg. Olympics, TWC Wed nights, OSA
 The 2004 Olympics in Athens will include mens' and womens' windsurfing races. Olympic racers use identical Mistral One Designs (longboards) and Mistral sails. Race courses vary but usually include an upwind and downwind component. Light summer winds make One Designs, Equipes, Mega Cats, Lightnings (all longboards 230-290 litres) the usual choice for TWC's Wednesday night racing. (You don't have to be an Olympian to participate here! Everyone's welcome!)



Olympic sailing events including Mistral (windsurfing) will take place from August 14-28. Check www.sailing.org for updates.



SLALOM (SHORT) BOARD RACING (15-30 knots) eg Maui Slalom Series
 Enjoying a recent revival due to slightly larger boards, "slalom" racing requires more wind than the others as boards are smaller and really only work well when they can plane. Boards tend to be 90-120 litres and sails vary from 5-7.5 metres depending on wind. Courses tend to be a series of linked reaches (perpendicular to slightly off the wind). Only a couple of our TWC members compete formally in this style of racing. Long time TWC members, Ted and Norah Hunter, who even tied the knot at the TWC beach, and who make an annual trek to Maui for the slalom season come to mind. Informally, TWC shortboarders race off Cherry Beach, every time there's enough east wind! There was even an easterly wind blowing on Ted and Norah's wedding day.



FORMULA RACING (8-25 knots) eg Ontario and Quebec Formula Series, OSA series, PWA
 Metre-wide boards (130-160 litres), huge sails and fins allow formula racers to plane upwind and downwind in relatively light winds. Courses typically include an upwind and downwind component. A few of our members compete on formula boards at Ontario races and on rare occasions, Formula boards have competed in Wed night racing.



LONG DISTANCE RACING (any wind will do!) eg. Mammoth Marathon, Black Dog Classic, HI HO
 Racers use all kinds of windsurfers in long distance racing, the choice being determined by local wind and water conditions. TWC's "Mammoth" Marathon takes racers around the Toronto Islands (about 25km) and except for 1992, when Steve Jarrett won the Mammoth on a Mistral Explosion slalom board in southwesterly winds gusting to 30 knots, the longboard has proven to be the fastest way to sail around the Toronto Islands. The Black Dog Classic takes racers around Martha's Vineyard and the HI HO (Hook In, Hold ON!) bases itself on several large sailing catamarans which serve as home to windsurfers as they race through the Caribbean for over a week!
 (Picture left and on cover Simon Rickard (TWC), Dave Luck (Ottawa Windsurfing Club, Dincer Kocalar race south of Toronto Islands in the 2003 Mammoth under the watchful eye of the safety boat)

2004 WEDNESDAY NIGHT RACING
 TOP FIVE IN EACH TWC FLEET
 (Gold, red, blue, white)
 AT MID SEASON
 based on average of best 10 races

David Hayes Dincer Kocalar Paul Carr Keith Whiston Bob Shuttleworth
Nick Cox Mike Keltz John Darling Bill Quantock Jon Matthews
Brian Miller Dan Les Mike Tindall Duke Duyck Paul Fish
Ashley Burke Barry Holtzkenner Mike Chupricove Ivan Dimic Lee Farrington

TWC RACING 2004 UPDATE

Top level youth racer David Hayes has traveled to exotic destinations such as the Caribbean, Belgium (youth fleet of 73!) and Bulgaria to find appropriate competition. Ted and Norah Hunter are racing a slalom series in Maui even as we write. Our Formula racers such as Jan Wroblewski, Ian Matthews, David Hayes, Andree Gauthier and Bob Shuttleworth have competed in regional provincial and national Formula races, our longboard racers have competed in Ontario Sailing Association races at TWC, in Kingston and Wasaga Beach and an "incredible number" (Chris Hope) of TWCers race in the Wednesday night series. Here the story has been a blessing of enthusiastic sailors (15, even on no wind nights, over 20 when we've had wind!) balanced by a no/low wind curse! We've had to cancel more Wednesday nights than ever before because of lack of wind, but the barbecues have been great! We're always happy to see new racers...the white fleet is for first year racers!



SPEED SAILING COMES TO TWC !

(Race Committee Chair Chris Hope reporting)

TWC has introduced speed sailing to improve member sailing ability. Divisions will include raceboard (longboard) and shortboard. Season and event results will be kept. Speed sailing "regattas" take place at times(to be announced) when wind conditions are suitable. Competitors are given 15 minutes to record their best efforts. Speeds are recorded and winners announced. The next competition follows in the next time segment. An evening regatta might have 3 x 15 minute segments spaced about half an hour apart. Individuals can record their best efforts any time during the season.

(Seasonal records)

Recording Equipment

TWC has opted for the GPS equipment. These are subject to errors and care has to be taken. Not all GPS's maintain MAX SPEED. When purchasing a GPS have the store show you this feature on the screen or in the instruction booklet before you buy. You also need a watertight bag (Aqua Pac, Aqua Pro, or Zip-loc Bag) , a method of securing the instrument to your body and a battery charger.

The main reading you need from your GPS is the MAX SPEED! The recommended GPS is the Submersible - Yellow GARMIN ETREX. (available from Canadian Tire, Best Buy, or Wal-Mart.)

TWC 2004 GPS Speed Racing Rules

Each division is broken into race board and short board sections. During formal club competitions your GPS will be checked by the Race Committee who will enter your results on the recording sheet.

During free sailing(seasonal record attempts) your GPS must be checked by any TWC member in good standing.

The GPS's must be checked before the run when the MAX SPEED Screen must be 0 [ZERO]. The GPS must be checked after the run/runs for MAX SPEED. Have your witness also check your entry on the chart. Your results will be entered on the TWC database and eventually posted on the TWC Website. Competitors are responsible for making sure results are actual sailing results not instrument errors. Wind speeds will be taken from the iwindurf.com. This is not accurate but the results will be the same for everyone.

At the time of writing, under 15 knot champions are Bill Mackenzie, 43.2 km/h(shortboard) and David Hayes, 42.6 km/h(longboard)!

MAMMOTH MARATHON...Sunday September 12,
 in conjunction with OSA #4 (Sat Sept. 11)
 -"Racer"(around Toronto Islands),
 "Intermediate"(Outer Harbour) and
 "Learn to Windsurf"(one mark and back!) courses
 -Skippers' meeting - 10:00 a.m., Le Mans style Beach Start - 11:00 a.m.
 -Barbecue lunch, draw prizes
 -Entry fee \$25,
 -Event t-shirts available

2004 TWC MEMBER SURVEY (distributed with spring newsletter...
 56 surveys returned)

1. Would you participate in a TWC fall trip (late October) to Hatteras? -13
 2. Would you participate in a TWC January or February 2005 Caribbean windsurfing trip to
 Margarita -21 Dominican Republic -21 Cuba - 15
 3. Would you participate in a TWC summer weekend trip to an Ontario destination such as
 Kingston -23 Sandbanks area -29 Lake Erie -23
 4. Would you enroll your kids in a summer windsurfing school if TWC organized
 one for a one or two week session? Yes-13
 5. Should seasonal storage rates be re-implemented Yes-11/No-16
- Responses to questions 5-8 varied to the extent that we could not discern any patterns.

NEWSY BITS

E-MAIL ANYONE?

TWC is looking for an e-mail expert to use our existing database to send e-mails to TWC members who have indicated they wish to receive TWC e-mail. If you're really good at mass e-mail and would like to help out, call Bill Quantock 905-475-8761

OUTER HARBOUR CHALLENGE AND GPS TOP SPEED CHALLENGE

Looking for something a little different to spice up your TWC sailing sessions? Try the Outer Harbour Challenge (sail to the spit and back and record your time...) or try TWC GPS Top Speed Challenge...(take a GPS which records max. speed with you and have another TWC member verify your top speed reading) Details for both are on the clubhouse bulletin board.



CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE SAILBOAT KIND

Marine traffic in the Outer Harbour is getting heavier. Know your Rules of the Road, but don't assume they'll protect you! Keep a close eye out for traffic and take evasive action when required. Recently one of our Wed racers (me) was run over by a 35 foot sailboat, right on our Wednesday race start line!



PUT YOUR SAIL IN THE SHADE ...REQUEST FROM YOUR SAIL and GROUNDS CREW Please don't leave your monofilm sail laying on the new grass in direct sunlight. If you don't care about your sail (every hour laying in direct sunlight is an hour UV will take out of your monofilm sail's useable life) then care about our grass. Monofilm sails left in the sun, burn the grass.



WINDSURFING CALENDAR SECOND HALF OF SEASON

- July 30-Aug 02 CMWA Championships/OSA Regatta #3 Kingston
- Aug 13-15 Quebec Windsurfing Tour #4 (Lac St-Jean) (S,Fo,Fr,LD) www.ericgirard.com
- 14-15 - National Capital Regatta - Britannia Yacht Club, Ottawa, ON (Fo,Long)
- 14-28 Olympic Regatta Mistral One Designs Athens, Greece
- Sept 2-6 Canadian Windsurfing Championships (WC) Regina Beach, Sask., www.cnwc.ca
- 11,12 OSA Regatta #4 Toronto
- 12 TWC's 22nd Around Toronto Islands Windsurfing Race Mammoth! SUNDAY!
- TBA Quebec Windsurfing Tour#5 Quebec City (S,Fo,Fr,LD) www.ericgirard.com
- 26 last day for Learn to Windsurf Instruction
- 29 Wednesday Practices and Wednesday Races finish

