

Tiller Tales

Gulfstream Sailing Club

March 2017

FROM THE COMMODORE

Gregg Henry

Hi! This is my first entry into Tiller Tales as Commodore. Those who know me know I come kicking and screaming. But, now that I'm here I'll do my best.

I think we need to drop back and build with baby steps. We were once the sailing club of clubs and we can rebuild to be great again. But, we need to work at it, ALL OF US. We have a good calendar, full of fun activities, but help is needed. I pressured the committee chairs to delegate, but they need someone to delegate to. It's not fair that a couple of people do all of the work.

There are a lot of good ideas on how to strengthen the club and now it's time to act on them. I don't mind hearing what's wrong with the club but I want to hear how to fix it. I like hearing the good ideas of our members, but I want to hear plans to make them work.

Yes, we need more members. But we need members who want to help and get involved. Our club has a membership of cool, hard-working, interesting people. And, we can all have fun, get involved and give a little more.

Fun is our key goal this year. Participation and help will make that happen.

Thanks for listening,

Your Commodore, Gregg



2017 Officers

- Commodore.....Gregg Henry
- Vice Commodore.....Ben Bowen
- Rear Commodore... ..Phil Decker
- Treasurer.....Linda Gossett
- Secretary.....Rosemary Chelick-Mahon

2017 Governing Board

- Marvin Verble
- Jim O'Hara
- Luis Oliviera
- Paul Hinden

2017 Committee Chairs

- Crew Pool.....Open
- CruisingJoe Kelly
- Fleet Captain 420sBen Bowen
- Fleet Captain Sunfish ..Luis Oliveira
- Legislative..... Open
- Membership.....Phil Decker
- Nominating.....Jim Webb
- Ocean RaceCharles Biancardi
- Program.....Jim O'Hara
- Ship's StoreJohn Edmonds
- SocialRosemary Chelick-Mahon
& Sam Walker
- Tiller Tales Editor.....Kay Harrison
- Website.....Ben Bowen

REMINDER

Our calendar is published on the GSC web site, www.gulfstreamsailingclub.org

GULFSTREAM SAILING CLUB "SEA MARKET"

For Sale, Will Trade, For Rent, Wanted, Please Take It Away Ads

Pet door for Patio Panel by Petsafe. Aluminum and tempered glass door installs easily into left or right opening in sliding door frame. 75"-81" in white 5 x7 opening and used 2 years. Purchased from Drs. FosterSmith and installs easily. Price \$80 paid \$160.
Betty Lou Webb 954 969 9196 or 954 803 1000.

Plustek Optic Film Slide Scanner.
 Used for scanning 35mm slides onto your computer. Works great. Used \$50.00.
Betty Lou Webb 954 969 9196 or 954 803 1000.

MEMBERSHIP— PHIL DECKER

Message from the Membership Chair

By Phil Decker, Membership Chair and Rear Commodore

We are always looking for new members to join our Club, and I encourage all of our members to spread the good word about Gulfstream Sailing Club wherever and whenever they can. Please contact me at phildecker@mac.com if you would like me to forward someone a personal invitation to a club event, forward someone a membership application, or send them more information. It is more fun working as a team.

Speaking as a team, we ask new and renewing members to indicate areas in which they would be interested in volunteering their time to help the Club on our new member and renewal forms. As the Membership Chair, I look for people interested in volunteering for the Membership Committee, and I have been thrilled to get the help of new members **Kara Bierman** and **Lizz Karp** in the last month to help with renewals. Thank you Kara and Lizz! Please also thank them in person the next time you see them. If there is a Club activity for which you would like to volunteer, please let a Board member know and we will set you up, with our thanks.

GSC would like to welcome the following new members to our club. Please add these members' numbers to your 2016 GSC directory, and say hello at our next meeting or social event!

Name	Phone	Boat
Lizz and Darren Karp	954-533-8763	
Bobbie Brown, Jr. and Cecelia Lewers		Sanuye, Cape Dory 28
James Bradford		Viking Princess, sloop
Brooke Weed	954-205-0724	Mermaid
Eric Johnson		Tale Winds, Hunter 420
Kara Bierman	954-494-9051	
Dan and Anca Donahue	754-300-8478	
Kevin and Sharon Kerwin		
Tanner Millen	607-423-7173	

GULFSTREAM SAILING CLUB—CHANGE OF COMMAND & AWARDS CEREMONY

January 28, 2017—Tropical Acres Restaurant



Rear Commodore Phil Decker, Commodore Gregg Henry and Vice Commodore Ben Bowen (photos by Franz Walkow)



GULFSTREAM SAILING CLUB REGATTA—APRIL 1, 2017

By Linda Gossett

The Gulfstream Regatta is the premier event of the year and it is coming up very quickly. The first regatta happened in January of 1992 when my husband, Bill Gossett, was commodore. We had 65 boats race that year and the Regatta quickly became a South Florida tradition.

I have a Regatta committee that is bound and determined to bring the regatta back to its original heyday!

My Regatta committee is: Dave Wallace, Astrid Hunton, Luis Oliveira, John Edmonds and myself. I have awesome prize and sponsor procurers in Janis Walkow, Betty Lou Webb and Rosemary Chelick-Mahon. This year's event is coming together and will be awesome with your racing involvement. COME OUT AND RACE!!!



Photo: Historic Dockers presented Rosemary Chelick-Mahon with a check for sponsorship.

A VIEW OF A DIFFERENT CLUB

By Gregg Henry



I recently was required to work on the “other” coast. I was working in Palmetto and living in Apollo Beach. As I was driving around looking for water, beach and/or boats, I drove by the Tampa Sailing Squadron. Their gate was closed, “Members Only,” so I went back on Saturday.

I was welcomed with open arms and invited to a pot luck that evening and to the Super Bowl party in two weeks. Their club and facilities were awesome: a large club house with a huge galley. Outside was a large screened in deck that overlooked their 42 boat slips. There was a dry storage area for trailerable sailboats and a large davit to lift them into the water. They had ways to pull the larger boats out to do bottom work on them, and a separate club house for the junior members and classes. All the sailing dinghies were on covered racks by the junior building.

I got a tour of the facilities and a brief history. The whole club, club house, docks, deck and junior area were totally built by member volunteers.

I presented their commodore with one of our burgees. He happily took it and said they would put it on a wall of honor.

I really enjoyed my time with them. I don't look forward to living and working over there, but I do look forward to visiting them again.

GULFSTREAM SAILING CLUB PHOTO ALBUM

Fall and Winter, 2016



*"What are those manatees doing?"
"I'm not sure, but I think it's illegal in most states..."*



Dinghy Run—September 10, 2016



"We're looking for the Oozo tree."



Chili Cook-Off—September 24, 2016



"That's not chili!" "So what? It's delicious!"

Holiday Party—December 8, 2016



"Where's Gregg?" "I don't know. Hey—There's Santa!"



THE ONGOING SAGA OF THE TAKABRAKE IV

By Vice Commodore Ben Bowen

My Grandfather, Charles W Bowen, came to Fort Lauderdale in about 1964 and rented a house on one of the isles of Las Olas. When his monthly rent was raised from \$100 to \$105 he was so incensed that he moved out and bought a house somewhere on the South Fork of the New River. He ran a brakeshoe company in Downtown Fort Lauderdale called Delta Brakes. It's pretty well accepted in family lore that the name came from a Delta Airlines flight attendant that he was dating when he came to Florida. If this is indeed the case, the name of the business lasted well beyond the end of the relationship. In 1966 he met and married Nancy, and they were together for the rest of his life.



Sometime after his marriage to Nancy, my grandfather bought what would be the first of 3 trawlers, which he called Takabrake. Since Nancy worked for the school board, she had summers off and they would usually travel the Caribbean during the summer months. During my high school years, my Dad and I travelled every year to the Abacos to spend a week with them aboard the Takabrake III, a 40' 1982 Marine Trader Trawler. After Nancy retired in 1989, they left for a 5 year trip which took them all the way to Venezuela and back. They returned from that trip and stayed about 6 months, docked at Coolie's Landing in the Takabrake III, before they became stir crazy and left for another 5 year adventure.

So, in homage to the Takabrake line of my grandfather, when I got my first boat I named it

Takebrake IV, although it is significantly smaller and I will most likely not make it across to the Bahamas. Also I won't be able to load it up with cases of beer and Caribbean rum, unless we sleep on the deck.

I bought the boat in February, 2015, full of optimism and imagining myself sailing into the sunset off the coast of Fort Lauderdale, sipping mojitos. Unfortunately, as is so common in life, there have been a few unexpected obstacles to overcome along the way and things have not gone quite as smoothly as initially envisioned.

The initial voyage

The Takabrake IV is a Hunter 26, designed to be kept and transported on a trailer. There is a system to (relatively) easily raise and lower the mast, it has water ballast and a swing keel.

During the trial run everything worked pretty well. We arrived at John Lloyd Park and the mast was already up. The owner launched the boat, we cruised out into the ocean and went for a nice sail, even if we got tossed around a bit more than I expected in the chop.

So I fully (naively) expected a similar experience on the first sail. My Dad and I met early, in a rented Ford F250, put the boat on the trailer and we were off to John Lloyd Park. We struggled with the mast for about an hour; as cautioned by the previous owner, after the mast is raised we inevitably find



MIAMI STRICTLY SAIL BOAT SHOW

By Rear Commodore Phil Decker



The GSC had a booth this year at the Strictly Sail Miami boat show, located at Miamarina, Bayside Marketplace, Miami. The annual show was held from February 16 – 20. Jim Mahon chaired the committee that built the booth, which included Rosemary Chelick-Mahon, Gregg Henry, and others. Many members took shifts manning the booth during the show, which also featured a free beer and pizza party on Saturday night with live music from the Eric Stone Band. Volunteers who man the booth also get free admission to the boat show for the day, which is worth \$25. Attendees can also take the free water taxi



to Miami International Boat Show held at Marine Stadium Park and Basin. (Shown in the photo: Francine Lemire and Paul Cadieux. At right: Jim Mahon).

THE ONGOING SAGA OF THE TAKABRAKE IV

Continued from page 6

something tangled or not attached or wrapped that requires us to lower it and start over. So on the first day we probably had to lower and reraise the mast about 3 times before it was finally right.

Once the mast was up, we backed the trailer up, launched the boat, and the excitement was palpable as I imagined us sailing on the open sea. All the effort and struggle and smashed fingers would soon be worth it as we flew over the ocean, laughing and sipping mojitos. As I write this I realize now that we didn't have the capability to make mojitos, but I'm pretty sure in my visions of our coming sail they were present.

I pulled the cord and the motor fired up. It was my first time at the helm so I was reviewing everything I would have to do to get us out the inlet to the ocean. We backed away from the dock, I turned the tiller and we swung around. I continued my mental inventory as I switched to neutral and dropped the throttle to idle, and then put it in forward. And the motor died. And we drifted away from the dock, bobbing in the surf, toward the mangroves. I put it in neutral, pulled out the choke, and started pulling the chord. Slowly at first but more and more frantically as we drifted toward the mangrove. We were about 20 feet from the dock and without power. Someone leaving in a small power boat came alongside and asked if we need to be pulled back and we graciously accepted. We were pulled over to the dock across from the ramps where we continued in vain to get the motor running for another 20 minutes or so and it became apparent that there would be no carefree sail along the coast sipping mojitos on that day. We pulled the boat back over to the ramp, put it on the trailer, took down the mast and went home.

Second Attempt: Adrift on the New River and the fortuitous Sea Tow membership

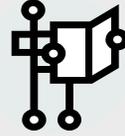
(To be continued...)

UPCOMING EVENTS AND DEADLINES

Come on out and join the FUN!



- ◆ **Sail and Raft Up, March 25:** Sail 11am at Port Everglades sea buoys; raft up at 2pm, Lake Sylvia.
- ◆ **GSC Regatta, April 1:** See page 4 for race info. Party afterwards at Bokampers.
- ◆ **Sail to Stiltsville: May 20**—More details to come.



Publication Schedule for Tiller Tales

JUNE ISSUE

Article Deadline: June. 1, 2017

Mailing Date: Mid-June



FREE “Sea Market” ADS

List your nautical-related items for sale, your “help wanted” notices, your items needed, dock space for rent or any other “classifieds” in Tiller Tales.

Send to kdolliver@hotmail.com and put Tiller Tales in the subject line.

From: Gulfstream Sailing Club

P.O. Box 1124

Fort Lauderdale, FL 33302

