



Tiller Tales

Gulfstream Sailing Club

December 2018

FROM THE HELM

Ben Bowen, Commodore



Commodore Ben Bowen on his boat with Mari Guarda. Photo: Jim Mahon

Having just returned from our annual holiday party, it occurs to me the end of the year is upon us, as hard as it is to believe. By all indications the party was a success; the food was excellent, old and new members alike joined to celebrate the holidays together. I was very happy to see so many new and even some prospective members came out to join us, and I hope their enthusiasm will carry over into the coming year.

So, as we always do at this time of the year, it's time to reflect on the year that is winding down. I think everyone will agree, it was certainly interesting. One of my goals as Commodore was to push to revive the Ocean

Racing committee and try to get more people involved. I was blessed to have **Paul Jehlen** volunteer to take the reins and breathe new life into this program. He quickly put together a committee from his crew from the MIA to Havana races and they hit the phones and stirred up some enthusiasm. Our first ocean race had 9 boats and was followed by a raftup with about 10 boats, including some powerboats that came out to join in. Throughout the year several of our boats were out of commission with various mechanical issues, but Paul's enthusiasm never faltered and he continued to bring the captains out to race, including new members who will hopefully continue coming out next year so we can build upon this year's momentum. We are still by no means a racing club, but I think a healthy racing program encourages our members to go out and enjoy their boats and hone their sailing skills.

The 2018 GSC Regatta was another success that we can be proud of, thanks to the hard work of **Linda Gossett** and the Regatta Committee. We had 8 boats registered, which was pretty close to 100% of our functioning fleet at the time. We did not win the day, in terms of the race results, but everyone I talked to had a great time out on the water and the after party at Funky Buddha was a hit. Members from both clubs had a great time swapping stories and recounting the day's events.

Of course, just as we were getting into the swing of things and everything seemed to be going smoothly, we were thrown a curve ball at our March meeting and informed that Lauderdale Isles Yacht Club, where we had been meeting for

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2018 Officers

Commodore.....Ben Bowen
Vice Commodore.....Phil Decker
Rear Commodore... ..Luis Oliveira
Treasurer.....Paul Hinden
Secretary.....Sam Walker

2018 Governing Board

Rosemary Chelick-Mahon
Linda Gossett
Gregg Henry, Past Commodore
Jim O'Hara

2018 Committee Chairs

Crew Pool.....Eric Kobrin
Cruising.....Gregg Henry
Small BoatLuis Oliveira
Legislative.....Sam Walker
Membership.....Phil Decker
Nominating.....Kay Harrison
Ocean RacePaul Jehlen
Program.....Jim O'Hara
Publicity.....Open
Ship's StoreJohn Edmonds
SocialRosemary Chelick-Mahon
Tiller Tales Editor.....Kay Harrison
Trophies.....Mike Sawzak
Website.....Ben Bowen

REMINDER

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

FROM THE HELM

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Past Commodore Mike Sawzak with Ben Bowen and Mari Guarda. Photo by Jim Mahon.

years, would no longer host us and we had a month to figure out a new meeting place. After a hectic search by several volunteers, we settled on our new meeting place, the VFW. I have been very happy with this arrangement and I believe that our membership agrees. It is a good location, pretty easy to get to from almost anywhere in the Fort Lauderdale area. We have been received very warmly and the food is good and the prices for food and drink are extremely reasonable. They at times seem to be a little overwhelmed by the number of people at our meetings, but it seems to be growing pains. Also, as a veteran of the US Army, it feels good to meet in a location that supports programs for veterans.

Unfortunately, not everything this year went off as planned. Although we escaped a direct hit from a hurricane, there were several minor weather events that seemed to be timed with surgical precision to disrupt our cruising events. First was Memorial Day, which was planned for Oleta Park, but we had to move to **Phil and Kay's** after a rare named storm popped up just in time to make the trip seem a little too treacherous. Then came our popular Pitcairn Race moonlight race. We had an impromptu captains' meeting the day the race was scheduled because of some massive thunderstorms that would be crossing our path, and we decided not to tempt fate. Finally, Labor Day weekend. Nasty weather was scheduled for Monday but 3 intrepid crews decided to brave the storms anyway and Tropical Storm Gordon formed right on top of them. So kudos to **Mi Sirena**, **Catmandu**, and **Bleu Bayou** who weathered the storm. We were forced to cancel Broward Cup when it was determined that there was only a single boat that would be able to participate. Every other boat was out of commission or the captains were travelling or otherwise unavailable. Our other events all went off flawlessly and we are very grateful for our many volunteers who made them happen.

As is the custom, I will be stepping aside on February 2 and joining the ranks of the Past Commodores. I know our club will be in great hands with our 2019 Board. **Phil Decker**, our Commodore elect, has served us very well as Membership Director and as a flag officer for the last two years. Additionally, prior to coming to Florida he served as president of a ski club for several years, so he brings lots of experience to the table. Our incoming Vice Commodore, **Paul Jehlen**, has represented our club twice in the Miami to Havana race and has revived our race committee. Not only does he encourage the captains to take out their boats, he recruits everyone he can to crew the races, so the whole club has a chance to participate. (It certainly helps that **Unexpected Pleasure** can accommodate a very large crew). **Eric Kobrin** is our club representative for PHRF and has participated in many club and local races with **Clementine** (which will hopefully be running again soon). He is a champion for the Miami to Key Largo race, which I personally hope we can get some more participation in next year. **Luis Oliveira's** de facto position as Lake Operations Director was formalized this year with an amendment to our club by laws, so there will now be a permanent position on the board that represents the lake, which is such a huge part of our club. **Sam Walker** will continue on as Secretary and Paul Hinden will continue as Treasurer, for a second term. **Gregg** is moving to a board position and **Rosemary Chelik-Mahon** will be taking a much needed break after serving our club diligently for so many years as secretary and then Board Member, as well as Social Director. **Jim O'Hara** and **Linda Gossett** will continue as governing board members. I would be remiss not to mention the difficult choice that we had to make for the Vice Commodore position at our November election. Linda has been a vital part of our club for over 30 years and has served in various positions on the board, multiple times, and was instrumental in originally securing our position at Sailors Point. In the past few years she has done a tremendous job running the GSC Regatta. I think she would be a great candidate for a flag position sometime in the near future and hope she will be interested in serving.

So that was our 2018. Although I will be out of the limelight I will continue to work from the background helping wherever I can. I thank the members of Gulfstream Sailing Club for giving me this chance to serve, and I have done my best to keep us on course. I hope to see you at the Change of Command on February 2 where we can enjoy some great food, a few drinks, terrific company, and the great music of Pink Slip.

— **Ben Bowen**, Commodore, Gulfstream Sailing Club 2018

SAILING ON THE ALBERTA ROSE TO VIRGINIA KEY

by Rosemary Chelick-Mahon and Jim Mahon



Marine Stadium at sunset.

Our sailing adventure began late on Sunday and due to the time we only went as far as South Lake where we barbequed and relaxed. The next morning, we motored down the big ditch to the anchorage in front of Marine Stadium. Later that day we were joined by Eric Johnson, Becky LeBaron and Eric's parents, Norm and Tale Winds. Then Joan Derrick-Haycock and David Anderson on La Bonvi arrived to raft up with us for the evening. Eric and Joan both sailed down to the key. After a wonderful evening socializing we all called it an early night.

Early the next morning La Bonvi left for the Keys. We sailed down to Coconut Grove where we anchored and then took our dinghies to land.

With advice from the dock master, we walked to Peacock Garden Bistro.

The ambiance, food, service and company were all exceptional. After walking off lunch we returned to our boats and sailed back to the Virginia Key anchorage. Once again we battened down the hatches and rode out the weather. The wind picked up and we were batted around. Luckily, the anchors held and we didn't drag an inch.

On Wednesday morning Tale Winds went back to Coconut Grove while Alberta Rose started the journey home. We only made it part way and spent the night at Oleta River State Park. We didn't stay in our usual anchorage but behind Sandspur Island to be out of the wind as much as possible. It worked. We didn't rock as much as the prior night but "Baby It Was Cold Outside". A comforter under the mattress and three on the bed kept us toasty warm.



Panoramic view of Miami.



Alberta Rose, a 32-ft center-cockpit O'Day.

Thursday saw us checking out Sandspur Island by dinghy (lots of raccoons) and then heading over to the dinghy landing at Oleta. We spoke to a park ranger who advised us on motoring to the swimming area rope, shutting off the dinghy motor and lifting it out of the water. Then we could row to the kayak/canoe area and beach our dinghy. Good information for next time. We also met a Canadian sailor who is down here for the winter.

We arrived home in the late afternoon and then started unpacking and cleaning the Alberta Rose. It was a wonderful time spent on our boat with good friends. We can't wait for our next mini adventure.



Jim Mahon, left, and Rosemary Chelick-Mahon, exploring Sandspur Island and Oleta River State Park by dinghy.

HOLIDAY PARTY — DECEMBER 11, 2018

Photos by Eric Kobrin



Santa himself showed up with toys for the kids. Right: Members Mike Dillon, Debi Hallmark and Stan DeKiel enjoy the cash bar.

Mari Guarda with Ben Bowen.



Left: Joe and Sheryl Kelly and daughter. Right: Roxana Lopez and Mike Sawzak.

Amazing desserts by the incredible Brenda Kobrin.



Above, right: Andrea Keyser and Sam Walker. Below: A hug from Rosemary Chelick-Mahon, with Jill Gastesi and Phil Decker..

Left: Jim Webb took home the gift basket. Above: Linda Gossett, Betty Lou and Jim Webb.



HOLIDAY PARTY — DECEMBER 11, 2018

Photos by Eric Kobrin



Photos: Top, Pavla Gibson's daughter with Santa; Paul Hinden with Andrea Keyser and guest. Right: Paul and Leann McKissick's daughter. Above: Brenda Kobrin and John Lucas. Middle: Geri and Paul Jehlen with Sam Walker. Right: Santa and Rosemary Chelick-Mahon. Below; Kobrin children with their gifts. Middle: Santa and the McKissick's son. Right: A little dance number.



Upcoming Events and Special Announcements

Dates to Remember

January Meeting.....Jan. 15
 Pompano Beach Nautical Flea
 Market.....Jan. 19-20
 Commodore's Cup RaceJan. 26
 Change of Command Ceremony.....Feb. 2

GULFSTREAM SAILING CLUB "SEA MARKET"

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

For Sale: Are there any club members who would like a 2BR, 2BA condo with dock space and no fixed bridges to the ocean? This 1,000-sq. ft. condo is available for under \$200,000. Contact Pavla Gibson for more info: 954-330-4762.

SINGLE SOURCE OF TRUTH

By Ben Bowen, Commodore

Imagine you have an investment account and you like to trade stocks during your free time. You've been doing pretty well lately and out of curiosity you pull up your account to see how much it is worth. So you look at your account on the website, and just on a whim you open the app on your mobile phone, and notice something unnerving, the value of your account is different in each place! So you call their 1-800 number, and they tell you a third, significantly different value. Which one is correct? You don't know!

Of course this is not how financial applications, or other significant information systems work. One concept that helps to keep values consistent everywhere is "Single Source of Truth" (SSOT). The idea behind this practice is that in distributed systems, any given piece of data should be stored in exactly one place. Any application that uses this value should pull from this place. If it is necessary to copy this value somewhere else, the copy should be treated as volatile and unreliable, and the actual value should only ever be written to in the one central location.



The benefits of this are that all systems that use this data will be guaranteed to be in sync, and any time that an update is made it will only be made once and will be immediately reflected across all applications that use it. If each application had its own copy of the data, any updates would have to be made EVERYWHERE, in every application and in every instance that it is referenced. This is, of course, not reliable and prone to inconsistency.

So you may be thinking to yourself, "This is all incredibly fascinating, but how is this in any way related to our fair sailing club?" While we don't need to worry about the consequences that can come from having outdated financial information or not having a patient's latest medical records, we can still benefit from this concept. As a club, one of our primary functions is planning events. Each event has a date, time, location, and possibly a cost. And, as in any group of more than 2 people operating in the real world, we are constantly faced with changing circumstances, weather events, emergencies, postponements, changes in venue, and cancellations. If everyone in our club has their own copy of the club schedule, chaos ensues. Every change in schedule must be accurately communicated to every member. On the other hand, if we consider the principle of SSOT, we can think of our club calendar at <http://gulfstreamsailingclub.org/calendar.php> as the Single Source of Truth. For example, if we put the calendar together in January, as we always do, and then in March it comes to our attention that we planned a club race for the same weekend as the Columbus Regatta, we can confidently move the club race to a free weekend knowing that we do not need to call every single member to let them know. Because, having adopted the principle of SSOT, they will know that anything that they have written in their own personal calendars is inherently unreliable, and they will have to refer back to the official club calendar to make sure they are up to date with any changes. And with all this time we're not desperately trying to call each other about changes in the central schedule, we have more time for sailing, stories about sailing, and beer. Nirvana attained.

TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

By Phil Decker, Membership Chair and Vice Commodore

It is time to renew your membership to the Club! If you have not done so already, please fill out the renewal form that you should have received in the mail and send it to our mailing address on the form. The renewal fee remains the same as it has been for the past several years, \$100 per family. Please also include a check for amount. For your convenience, you can also pay by credit card at a meeting, or renew online from an e-mail invitation via MemberPlanet. Please contact me by e-mail if you have any problems. The deadline to renew is January 31 to be included in the annual member directory. After January 31, there is a \$20 late fee.

There are so many benefits to club membership. There may be some that you may not be aware of:

- Social events for the whole family
- *TillerTales* quarterly newsletter
- Camaraderie with fellow sailors
- Ocean cruising, racing, and raft-ups
- Small boat racing at North Lake
- Rent small boats at North Lake for only \$5 per day
- Gulfstream Regatta
- Discounts on Boat US membership and towing packages from Towboat US



The number of club members has stayed very steady over the past several years. I have included a graph that shows how 2018 compares to previous years. You can see on the graph that membership always dips in February. That is because some people choose not to renew their membership, and then some people are renewing late during the year.

We are at exactly the same level in now at the end of 2018 as we were in 2017, but we are always trying to add more members. If you know boaters who are interested in joining, please bring them to a meeting or happy hour, and send them an application form.

New Members as of December, 2018

GSC would like to welcome the following new members to our club. Please say hello to them at our next meeting or social event!

Name	Phone	Boat
Edgar Salvador & Analia Gonzalez	954-727-5470	Beneteau 235 "Blue Cheese"
Ryan Kegerreis	786-338-1534	
Gamma & Kelly Dean	954-401-6917	
Lorie Messer	361-549-2869	
Adam Benjamin & Erica Sweitzer	401-741-7801	
Emma Wightman	201-563-8033	
Erik Speyer	615-512-5393	
Ken & Marie Miltenberger	973-879-0170	Cutter, 40 ft. "Tempest"

Change of Command Party

- Mark your calendars for our 2019 Change of Command
- Invitations are being printed and will be out in early January
- Date – February 2, 2019
- Where – Tropical Acres
- Dinner, Award Ceremony, Dance
- This is our end of year/kick off the new sailing year blast.
- Plan to be there.



From: Gulfstream Sailing Club

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