

Scuttlebutt



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A publication of the
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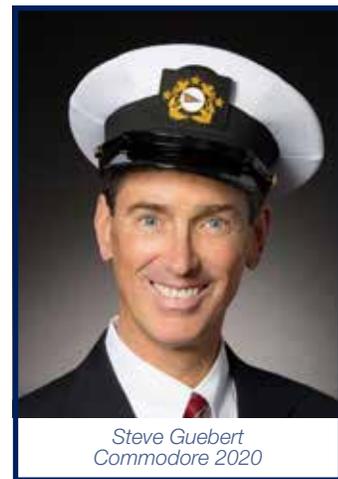
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SUBMIT ARTICLES AND PHOTOS TO
SCUTTLEBUTT EDITOR

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ATLANTA YACHT CLUB est. 1950
Atlanta Yacht Club, north of Atlanta on Allatoona Lake, has been home to small-boat sailors of all ages since 1950. On weekends throughout the year, you will find our shores busy with one-design sailing craft heading out for competition or just the pleasure of being on the water.



Steve Guebert
Commodore 2020

As we said goodbye to 2020, a few of us joined with the Lake Allatoona Association for their 4th annual "Lights on the Lake" Christmas Boat Parade, an evening cruise to get into the holiday spirit. Proceeds from the 2020 "Lights on the Lake" Christmas Boat Parade were to go to benefit The Children's Haven, in Canton, GA, whose mission is to promote the health and happiness of children impacted by abuse.

I had the great honor to cruise in the parade on our beautifully decked-out RC Barge along with our Club, Women's, and Junior champions to celebrate the holiday season and our champions' sailing successes in a year without our traditional Christmas Party / Awards Banquet. (We have a few other awards to give out, but these will have to wait until Commissioning in the spring.)

A big thank you to Tracy and all of her helper elves that decorated and/or ferried the RC Barge down the lake to the parade route that ran from the Allatoona Yacht Club over to the dam for a couple of turns and then to Park Marina.

The pessimists may look back on 2020 and say what an awful year it was...the Covid-19 pandemic, masks and social distancing, contentious politics, while at the club our big regattas were cancelled, and social events were greatly curtailed. But I've always been a glass half full guy and I'll remember 2020 being not as an awful year but as a "different" year. We still had plenty of sailing going on this year, even with many social activities scaled back. The overall state of the club remains strong and I believe with hopeful news of vaccines just around the corner we will have weathered the pandemic storm. I believe our club will emerge even stronger as individuals and families continue look for opportunities that can get them out of their homes for fun, family-oriented recreational activities.

Our club has always been and continues to be a club of volunteerism. As we look ahead to 2021, I encourage all of you, young and old, long time members and new members, to do your part to participate, volunteer, share, grow, learn, and have fun at this amazing place we have on Lake Allatoona. Hopefully, come the spring, we will all be looking forward to a return of our social events, sailing, Junior Week, regattas and all the fun activities we enjoy at the club.

So...let's go sailing!





From the
Vice Commodore

Winter is a season for reflection and as I look back on the year 2020 at AYC, I am so proud to be part of this amazing club, am grateful for our generous, warm, kind and ever-so-dynamic membership and honored to have AYC as a beacon which burns endlessly bright in my life (thanks go to Air Supply for the lyrics "beacon burning endlessly bright").

Speaking of brightness...AYC lit up the lake and the night sky with our trusty, rusty and crusty Committee Boat decorated with lights, lights, and more lights as we made our debut in the Lights on the Lake parade on Saturday, December 5. It took two Honda generators and a battery bank to power the lights, but the real power-house on board was the team on the boat during the parade – our 2020 Club, Junior and Ladies Champions joined by Commodore and Mamadore, Steve and Judy Guebert. Thank you to Susan Smith for suggesting we participate in it in lieu of the Annual Awards and Christmas party. And a huge thanks to all who donated lights, generators, flashlights, heaters, brainpower and their precious time to pull this event off. Who wants to start planning a design for next year? Perhaps this will become a new tradition for AYC. We were a proud sponsor this year and the parade raised \$4,000 for a children's home in Canton. And we won a prize! First Place for "other" division. Not a pontoon; not a cruiser; not a houseboat; RC 1 is an "other!"

Going back a couple of months, October was filled with lots of sailing activity at AYC. The Y-flyers sailed over the weekend that traditionally hosts the Beers regattas, club races concluded the 3rd weekend of October and the Juniors got out and sailed during the 4th weekend. We see some juniors transitioning from Opti's and 420s to Lasers – and many thanks to Mike Carlson and the Laser fleet for not only encouraging our youngsters, but mentoring and getting out on the water with them. And while the No More Turkey Regatta was shortened to a one day this year – there were a whopping 22+ boats competing! Wow. Lasers have been on fire this year and it is fantastic to see members of other fleets hop in a Laser to "test drive". Thistle Fleet Captain, David Sinclair sailed in the No More Turkey – he hadn't been in a Laser since he attended Junior week (umm, I can attest that was 30+ years ago...) and had a fantastic time.

Hope your winter is one of great reflection. It was a privilege to serve this year as your Vice Commodore and thank you to all who supported me along the way!

AYC CALENDAR NOTICE



Please be sure to open and read the weekly email blasts that are sent out on or around each Monday.

These notices will be your best way to keep up with opportunities to come out and enjoy your club and keep you abreast of any changes that may happen.



Where has the year gone and what a strange year it has been?! Last January, Barry and I met to outline our “must do” projects and “would really like to do” projects to accomplish in 2020. Little did we know how the world would change in less than 45 days from that meeting. If you are like me, you probably have done a lot of things around your house this year since you had a little more time at home (painting, pressure washing, replacing, and landscaping everything). Well, we did the same at the lake. In addition to our normal maintenance schedule, check this out:

- Flag pole: pressure washed and the base painted. ✓
- Installed LED and solar lights to better light up the clubhouse. ✓
- Flower boxes reconditioned. ✓
- Clubhouse entrance floor reconditioned. Nope, the estimate was too high.
- Clubhouse roof repaired. ✓ (Thanks Joe & Team)
- Pressure wash the clubhouse. ✓
- Pine straw replaced at the clubhouse. ✓
- Build new kayak rack. ✓
- Install safety streetlights at the play yard and Jib Circle. Sort of a check. Play yard light worked great, but the one at Jib Circle could be seen from the Space Station. We opted to turn that one off to limit light pollution.
- Replace the grill wheels at the clubhouse. ✓
- Road signs replaced and some signs repainted. ✓
- Replace rusted out grill in BBQ Pavilion. ✓ AND we added one in the campground.
- Replaced electrical outlets and installed solar lighting in campground. ✓ (Thanks, George!)
- Bings Point bench hardware repainted. ✓
- Hardware at BBQ Pavilion painted. ✓
- Clubhouse exterior painted. ✓ (Thanks Eddie, Alan, and Whit)
- Remaining roads repaved, sealed, or graveled. ✓
- Maintain and submit water system safety checks. ✓
- Security cameras repaired in clubhouse and exterior cameras installed on club property. ✓ (Thanks, Eddie!)
- Researched the possibility of moving the RV lot closer to the campground. Nope. The RVs won't fit, turn around is too narrow, and power supply won't support.
- Recondition the boat parking poles and install tongue blocks for the center aisle. Just didn't get to it this year.

So, when you see Barry and the people mentioned in this note, please thank them for their hard work. Barry does amazing things for us behind the scenes and keeps AYC looking like the gem we all know it to be. Willing volunteers is what it takes to keep the club humming along as it has for the last 70 years. I hope you and your family have a great holiday, please take care of yourself, and I'll see you at the lake!



COVER PHOTO

The AYC Committee Boat may have taken her longest journey away from home, ever, on the night of January 5, 2020, to participate in the Lights on the Lake Boat Parade down near the dam. Front Cover and Inside spread photos; Credit to *David Vaughn*, superdavesphoto.com



EC12 METER

John Muhlhause

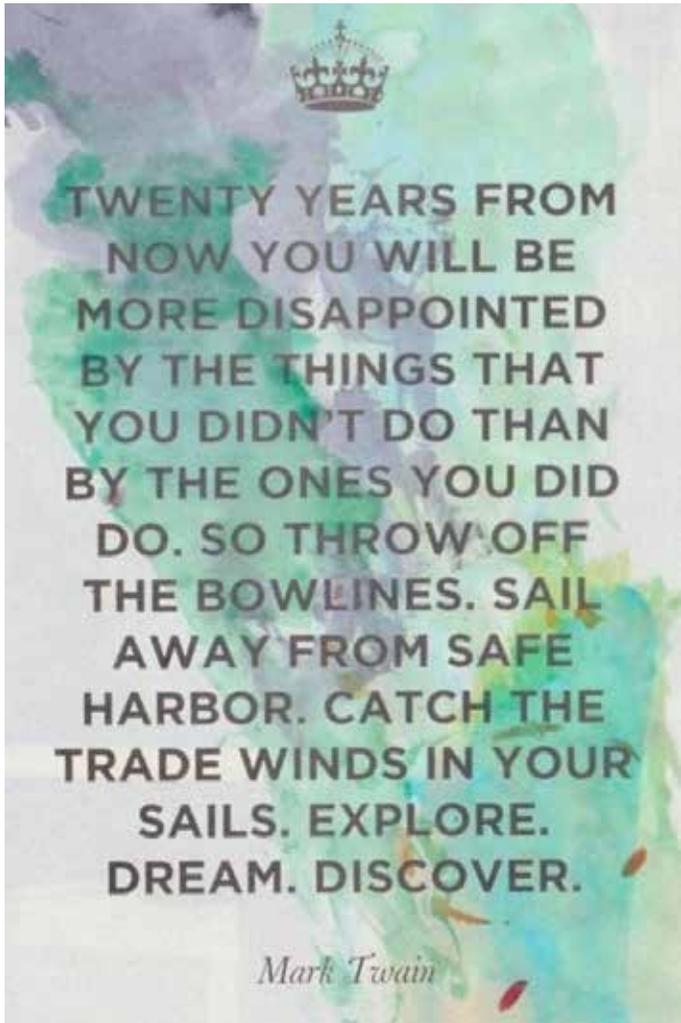
Congratulations to Robert Mitchell, who after his absence from our summer series, reigns again as one of our top fleet skippers after winning our 2020 Fall Pandemic Series.

Scott Vernon placed second. Participating but not sailing enough races to qualify, were Ian Elliott, George Willis, John Muhlhause and Bill Tumlin. Our distinguished club member (DCM), who was responsible for Ian's unique first place prize, informed us that the local cauldron of "cutie pies" had vacated the north clubhouse area (aka children's playground) – apparently migrating to the tony Buckhead area for winter.



Due to the falling lake level, the need to locate race courses further out from shore, and sight limitations of some skippers, we were forced to leave the comfort of the Viewing Pavilion and set up shop on the north ramp dock. In order to maintain social distancing requirements, the outer part of the dock was reserved for the octogenarian seating area, followed by a standing area for the septuagenarians. The youngsters got to stand at the inner part of the dock or on the ramp.

Scott is in the process of restoring our fleet boat that should be ready for a guest to sail when we begin our Winter Series on Sunday, January 3rd. We will be sailing at AYC this year instead of Murphey-Chandler Park. If you are interested in experiencing the joy of radio sailing and/or just keeping your racing skills sharp, contact either Ian or Scott about this opportunity. All octogenarians are required to bring their own chaise lounges.



Robert was very pleased to receive a more traditional trophy than the one-of-a-kind awarded to Ian last September for winning the Summer Pandemic Series.



Flowering Branch
Children's Shelter

Dear Atlanta Yacht Club,

This year has been really tough for the Flowering Branch kids for the same reasons as everyone else, but because of your generosity last year with donations for field trips, our kids still got out of the house and had some fun.

The local theater allowed us to rent the theater several times and bring the kids, and invite some of our local foster families with their kids, too! Everyone could socially distance, feel some normalcy and watch a movie on the big screen. And they made popcorn for us. Your donations also allowed for travel to parks that were open, and later, when venues opened up, we were able to get the kids some masked-up trips. You helped keep the kids smiling through the summer.

Christmas was wonderful for the kids in 2020. I wish I were allowed to show pictures of their faces when they saw their stack of presents. The little extras mean a lot to the kids. Stockings. Little blankets that weren't expected. The whole house smells like a Bath and Body Works store. Because they are teenagers, they love to shop and we have already made one trip to the outlet mall for them to buy clothes and shoes.

We know that Santa really lives at a sailing club on Lake Allatoona.

Dawn Landrum
Flowering Branch House Director



JUNIOR REPORT

Several junior laser sailors, including Leif, James, and Tucker, have been heading over to Lake Lanier to participate in Laser Clinics with Daniel Postell. They have attended two clinics so far and plan on attending more.

Realizations thus far: Lasers take lots of rigging, a triple capsized and ejecting your competitors with your mainsheet are both possible, foul weather gear is awesome, and perfect starts are impossible. The clinics have been a great opportunity to sail with other juniors at LLSC. We hope the boys can continue partnering with LLSC to grow junior Laser sail training in our area.

Many thanks to Doug Folk and Mike Carlson for fixing up the Laser Fleet's Four-Place Trailer. It looks quite impressive. Contact Leif Carlson if you're interested in getting more involved in junior Laser sailing.



*South Atlantic Yacht Racing Association
recognizes and congratulates*

**EVIE BLAUVELT
TUCKER MANSFIELD**

*Junior All Stars from AYC
Nominated by the Regional Clubs*

www.sayra-sailing.com



Atlanta Yacht Club 2021

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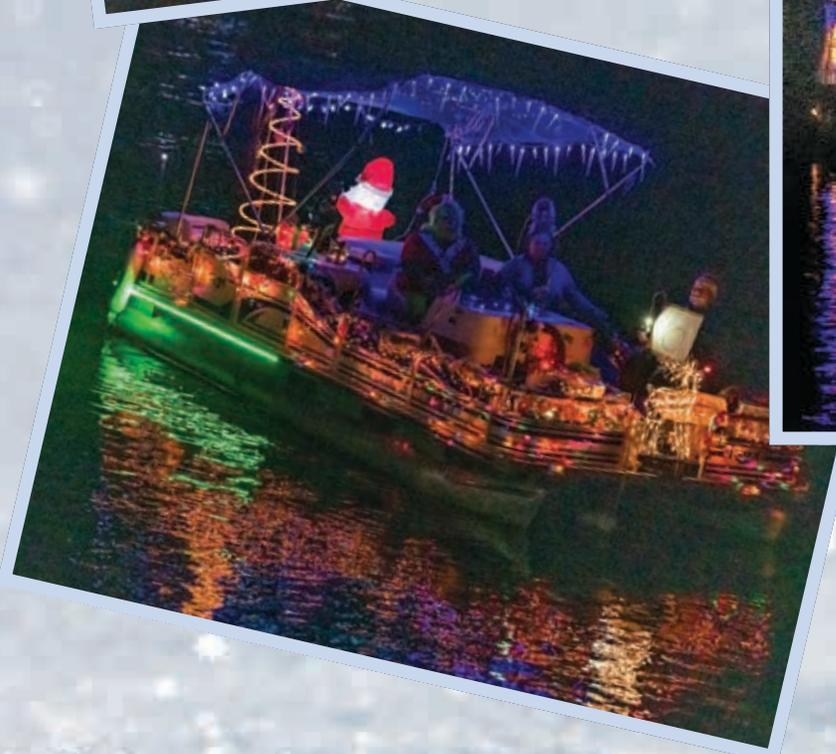
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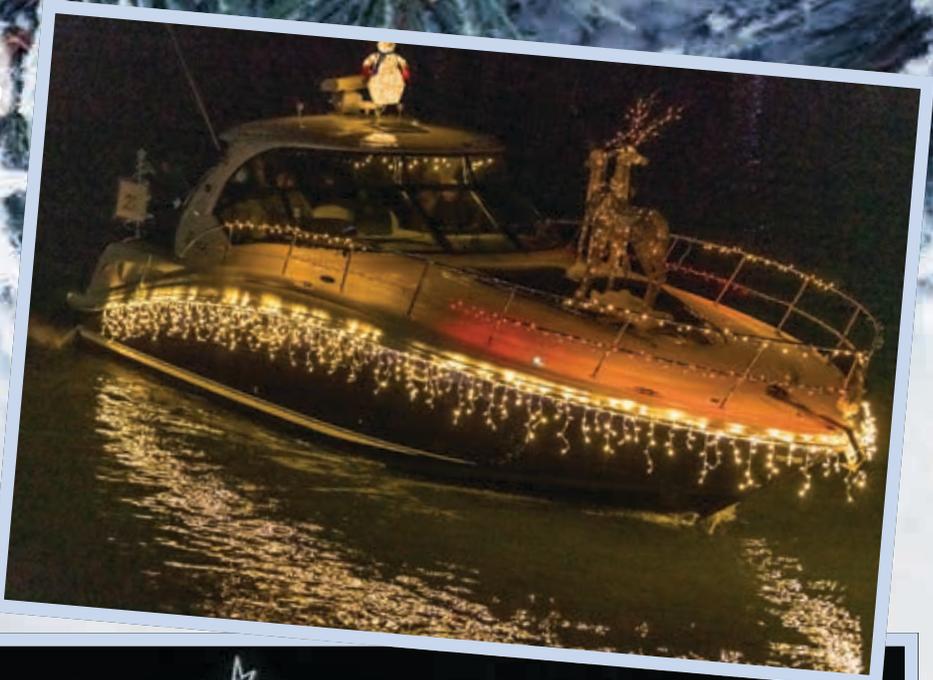
Scuttlebutt Submissions

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Lights on



the Lake



The fourth annual Lights on the Lake Christmas boat parade was held Dec. 5. Each year, the LAA donates the parade proceeds to a children's nonprofit organization. This year, the Children's Haven in Canton will receive the proceeds. *Inside spread photos — Credit to David Vaughn, superdavesphoto.com. Dave is available for events and regatta photography on Allatoona Lake.*



LASER FLEET 116

Ed Marks

What a year the Laser Fleet has had. It all started with the wildly successful SDLS (Socially Distancing Laser Sailing) and we finished up the year with 20 boats on the line for the No More Turkey Regatta.

Since the NMT, we have had 2 SDLS events in November. We will try to keep this up through December as weather permits.

Lastly, the Frostbite Series cranks up at LLSC the first weekend in January. Hopefully, the format will be like last year and on Wednesday night they make the call for the best sailing day of the weekend. Frostbiting is a great way to really hone your skills no matter what you sail in the warmer months. Come join the fun.

Laser Sailing, you gotta love it!

_) ^ (_



NEW OLD KIDS ON THE DOCK

No, they aren't Thistles, but if you guessed a close cousin, you'd be right.

Come take a look at the two new, pretty Flying Scots at AYC -- they're social distancing in the parking lot for the winter but will be jostling for room at the dock by spring, joining the other two already here. Thistle Fleet "graduates" Art and Nancy Molitor and Larry and Karin Snyder are moving into the next decade with new toys and new challenges. Will this be the start of something big? Who knows? Counting present Scot owners Orié Wade and Conrad Roos, four boats do indeed make a quorum...But all we know for now is that we will be cooking up fun on the water this spring, so you can expect to see more of us! Inquiring minds? Track down Art Molitor or Larry Snyder.



More info on the Flying Scott: <https://www.spinsheet.com/boat-reviews/flying-scot-used-boat-review>

BLAST FROM THE PAST

March 1992

Flying Scot

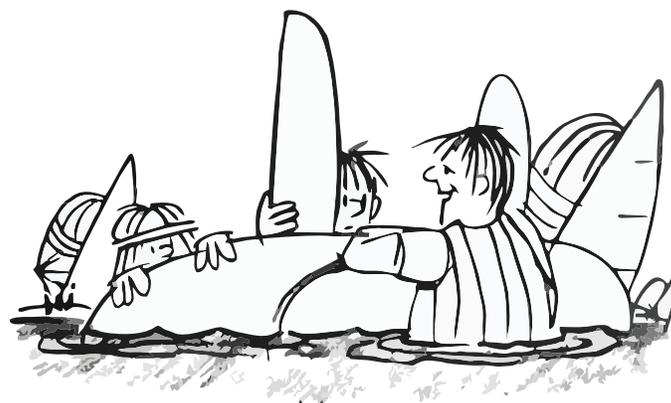
Kent Hassell

Last year, AYC gave official sanction to its first new fleet in over ten years. Flying Scots are now established on solid ground, planning a 30-race season and have doubled the membership this past year!!

In the next several issues of the Scuttlebutt, we will introduce and profile our new members. We'll give you some background and facts of interest on the Flying Scot, and try to help you learn a little about AYC's newest class.

Extend a warm welcome to Harold and Sarah Wilde, Neal Matthews, and Whit and Lisa Kendall. They will be eager to get to know you, and happy to share their knowledge of Scot sailing.

For now, we're planning a pre-commissioning gathering and are looking forward to HIGH TIDE at Allatoona and the start of the sailing season.



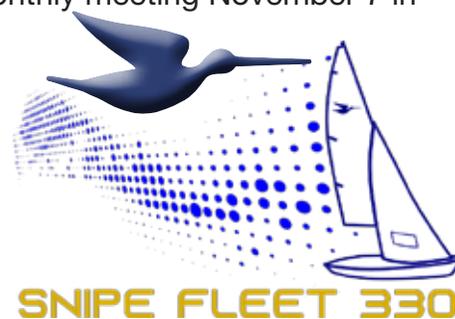
Well, Conrad, I guess next time it's blowing 20 we won't cleat the spinnaker sheet, will we?



SNIPE FLEET 330 NEWS

Greg Kibler

Joy Finch, Fleet Captain, presided over the final 2020 Snipe Fleet monthly meeting November 7 in person and shared via Zoom. It has been a trying year since 6 boats left AYC for the Georgia State Snipe Championship at the Valdosta Yacht Club March 7-8. A COVID lockdown curtailed sailing until fleet races re-started in June. Participation was limited to those with family crew or willing to wear face protection. The Drills, Thrills and Chills clinic was held in July. The July Annual Marshmallow Intergalactic Championship was rebadged Lost in Space. The Halloween Regatta was cancelled for the first time. Away regatta attendance was reduced.



As the season came to a close, awards were given and 2021 Fleet officers were elected. Greg Kibler and crew, Rita Fullick, were awarded Fleet Champions. Lucy Spearman and crew, Ellie, took 2nd and Snipe Fleet Junior Champions, and Leif Carlson and crew, Tucker Mansfield, placed 3rd and were awarded Most Improved Sailors. Marianne and Don Hackbarth were awarded for Outstanding Service. Greg Kibler will be Fleet Captain for 2021. Amy Durrett will remain Vice-Captain, and Mary Williams will continue as Treasurer.

We are hoping for a return to Valdosta in March 2021 and look forward to AYC Commissioning and a year of normalcy with clinics, rallies, fleet racing, regattas and parties. As always, club members and guests are welcome to use our 4 fleet boats to experience the joy of Snipe sailing. Thank you, Joy, for your dedicated commitment and service this past year.



THISTLE FLEET NEWS

Is 2020 really OVER?? It seems like an eternity since the Thistle Fleet was wondering if we “might” have to cancel the Dixie — hah! But here we are, the better part of a year later, stepping gingerly around the disappointments and not only coping with all the challenges but actually thriving in the craziness. Thistle sailing on Allatoona hasn’t been this consistently energetic in years!

Thanks to our efforts to encourage, support and RALLY not only our new fleet members, but also a number of seasoned ones infused with rekindled enthusiasm, we have had 36! unique skippers this year and as many as 11! boats on the line. Deserving special notice, three of our members — Len Wert, Darby Dryden and Reid and Anne Thompson — actually sailed more than 40 courses for the year! It has also been fun to see Thistles out on the pond during the week, not racing but honing their skills and just relishing more tiller time. It seems like only yesterday that Reid and Anne Thompson joined our fleet as non-sailors, and omigosh, today they’re the ones out on the water at every opportunity, raising the dedication bar for the rest of us — along with George Willis, whose telltale orange Jeep in the parking lot more days than not, assures us that all’s right with the world because yes, George is out sailing again!

While we admit to just a teensy bit of bias toward the Thistle, as a fleet we are well aware of the number of people new to sailing who are inquiring about AYC, joining, and trying out or purchasing boats from among any of our fleets. In an effort to support these people, the Thistle Fleet has been working on a “Sailing Experience” program to help all our brand new sailors learn the fundamentals of handling a sailboat, from rigging to launching to sailing to docking. The original concept for a

See *THISTLE*, page 14



full weekend has been distilled down to a single day, with the goal of adding new modules as the participants' progress. You will not be surprised to know that Bryce Dryden is the energy behind this program, though he will be swift to tell you he has a cadre of dedicated helpers. Thanks, especially to Bryce, for hosting a fantastic and well-received grass roots Thistle class this fall.

One particular guy who probably does not need to be coached in the basics of sailing is new club member David Sweeney, a lifelong competitor in a variety of boats, with a playbook of achievements including the Canadian Olympic team. Along with his wife, Rachael, also an avid competitor, and their four school-age children already engaged in sailing, David has already shown himself to be ready for action at AYC. Here he is shown at the helm of Brett Woods' Thistle 3800, racing one Sunday at the end of our season with Brett crewing. If you didn't know David before, you would have taken notice on that day or any of the others he came out for, as he sailed away to a first place in every race but one. The Sweeneys are actively looking for their own Thistle — what a nice addition they will be to our fleet!

The 2020 regatta scene has been one to remember (or not?), but after so many cancellations early on, this fall saw several of our Southeastern circuit fleets come up with creative ways to hold their events. After a very successful Old Goat at Lake Lanier, Birmingham stepped up in October to host the Great Pumpkin, which drew 19 boats including Bob McCormack with Len Wert crewing. No pumpkin rolling or costume party, just pure, uncomplicated Thistle racing. The Corona virus didn't seem to have altered the wind patterns any — it was just as unpredictable as ever! Two light and shifty races Saturday and two marvelous races Sunday averaged out to an overall successful event, won by Greg Griffin (no change there, either!). The Bloody Mary, which was to be next, was cancelled, and the Jubilee survived though no one from our fleet made it. Pent-up demand for competition and social NON-distancing just about guarantees that if the pandemic starts to disappear this spring, we will be storming the regatta venues to make up for all the fun we missed this year. And BTW, the 2021 Dixie is still on the calendar, with our work already half done because... think about it, 2021 is still the "Roaring Twenties!"

Speaking of carrying things forward, by popular acclaim we have voted (decreed, actually) to keep our slate of fleet officers tied to their chairs for a second term. You can take that as wonderful news, as our leadership has been so terrific this year despite our "normal" activities being all askew. So, carry on, Captain David Sinclair! with Assistant George Willis right behind him and Dixie Chair Steve Mitchell actually getting to find out what his job is like when it doesn't get furloughed. The "new" old team will have been ordained by the time you read this. And since our 2020 fleet winners will have been announced and no longer a secret, please congratulate the awesome team of Dave Shively and Diane Vandeputte who are once again in the Limin'-light! The Shivelys are working hard to own the #1 spot permanently, but they had best keep an eye on two competitors trying to steal their wind, Darby Dryden and Len Wert, in second and third respectively. We are all proud of you, and not a little jealous!

Finally, congratulations to two of the newest Thistlers elected to AYC's Board of Governors, David Sinclair and George Willis. If you have picked up on a pattern here, you just might be onto something — the Thistle Fleet does boast some mighty fine leaders! They have kept us going strong all during this challenging term and promise to deliver even more in the coming year. So everybody cross your fingers, eat your kale, and we'll be looking for you on the pond come spring!



COME
HELL
OR-
HIGH
WATER

**WE'RE
GONNA'
SAIL!**

**March 20-21
2021**

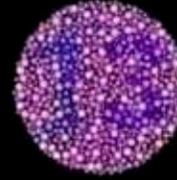
**Registration
Open Soon!**



If you can't see the number, you:



Have A
Headache



Need To
Rehydrate



Have Low
Blood Sugar



Need A
Nap



Need Another
Boat



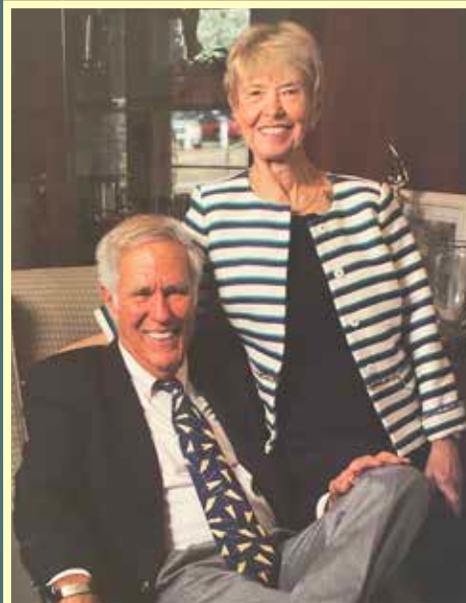
Have A
Cold



2021 EMERITUS MEMBERS

Celebrating 50 years of continuous membership
Participation in fleet racing, club events and regattas

Rusty and Sam Hanley • Art and Nancy Molitor



★ YEARS ★





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Atlanta Yacht Club

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US