



SAGINAW BAY COMMUNITY SAILING ASSOCIATION
 P.O. BOX 2122, BAY CITY, MI 48707-2122
 (989) 922-SAIL, www.sbcsa.org

WINTER 2007

A Message from the President:

Thanksgiving Day, November 22, 2007,
 Hello Everyone,

It is Thanksgiving morning and I have a bit of time before the festivities begin. I thought the first thing I would do is share a few "Thank You" messages related to the SBSCA. First, thanks to the Board for their efforts this past year. If you see one of them, you should thank them too. Not only are they involved with the SBSCA, but every one of them is involved in other community service activities. We should all recognize the SBSCA board for what they are: community minded activists.

I would personally like to thank Bob Nelb for doing a great job again this year. As Executive Director, he has taken on the burden of day to day operations of the various programs offered by the SBSCA. We have continued to grow and evolve under his leadership and organizational skill. I also want to recognize our instructors and assistants. Instructors Zac Bowdish and Alex Niederer continue to get rave reviews by the students, and our assistants James Roesner and Brad Parker really shine in their ability to keep the students enthused about sailing while helping with the on-the-water coaching.

There are a number of donors that need to be recognized. These are the individuals and organizations that continue to support our efforts to educate young people and offer sailing and life opportunities for young and old alike. Companies like Gougeon Brothers, West Marine, Doyle Sailmakers, the Sweet Boutique, and the Bay City Times continue to support us through financial and in-kind donations. The Gougeon Family Fund and The Morley Foundation have once again stepped up to provide funding for our special projects, and a number of individual donors like you provide cash donations and time to support our efforts.

In this newsletter, you will find information about our upcoming events. Please try to attend our annual meeting; we need feedback and input to continue to improve. We also would love to have you sign up for our boatbuilding or boat maintenance classes. You can use the skills you learn to modify or repair your own boat.

I hope to see you all real soon, at the annual meeting perhaps. Until then, enjoy this Thanksgiving holiday and the company of family and friends, and be thankful everyday for your health, the beautiful region we live in, and the wonder of our lives.

Fair Winds,

Joe

Joe Parker, President

SBCSA Annual Meeting
 Tuesday, December 11, 2007
 Lumber Barons, 804 E. Midland St., Bay City, MI
 à la carte dinner at 6:00 PM followed by the
 Annual Membership Meeting.
 Members, family, and friends welcome!
 Please RSVP by Friday, 12/7, so we have enough places set.
 (989) 922-7245 or bob.nelb@sbcsa.org

2007 in REVIEW

Membership In 2007, the SBSCA had 57 memberships made up of 19 family, 30 adult, and 8 youth memberships. This is an increase over the 38 total memberships for the 2006 season. There were quite a few new members this year who joined after taking lessons to take advantage of the Open Sailing program every Tuesday. Seventeen members participated in the boat building class. Even though they joined to build a boat, many came back in the spring and fall to help with maintenance and move docks and boats, and a few took lessons too.

Meade Gougeon, Jan Gougeon, and Rob Monroe were named Lifetime Honorary members. Their long-time guidance and support have been key to the success of the SBSCA.

Lessons Despite the non-existent wind that seemed to plague the youth morning classes, the very brisk winds for the intermediate classes (if only we had a nickel for every time M.D. capsized a FEVA), and the storm clouds that arrived precisely at 6 PM during the adult classes, Zak, Alex, and Bob, with help from Brad and James, managed to teach 70 students in our sailing lessons. All the classes we had scheduled were full, showing that interest in sailing is increasing.



Open Sailing for Members Open Sailing was very successful this year with all the Transfusions, most of the FEVAs, and an occasional pram being used each week. We also had various theme nights this year leading off with a very successful Beach Party. Other themes included our Jamaican Jamboree, our own Race to Mackinac Island Fudge (with prizes donated by the Sweet Boutique), and a Hawaiian Luau. For those of you who were not able to make it to any of these nights, you missed great sailing and some very creative ways to doctor up grilled hot dogs to taste like regional cuisine!

Independent Sailing Over the winter, *Sharp Cheddar's* hank-on-jib was replaced by roller furling and the mainsail was modified with slugs in place of the bolt rope. These modifications made it easier to rig for sailing. Even so, both *Alongshore* and *Sharp Cheddar* were used only occasionally this summer, but their use did pick up toward the end of the season when some of the adult class students decided to venture out on the Bay. Next season formal lessons will be held to teach members how to use these boats and prepare them for sailing on the Bay and lower river.

Special Events

Try Sailing Day Our annual Try Sailing Day was held on June 9 during the Art Festival. It was a beautiful day for sailing and seventy-five potential sailors were given rides.



Girl Scout Workshop Because of the overwhelming interest in the Girl Scouts of Mitten Bay sailing workshop generated by last year's event, this year it was expanded to include 27 scouts over two afternoon sessions. The workshop was a combination of on-water training alternating with sessions about knot tying and water safety. Once again, the workshop was well received and all the girls earned their sailing badges. Girls from as far away as Indian River and Lapeer attended because no other program of this type is available.



Other Events The SBCSA participated in several other events in the area. On June 12, Brad Parker set up a booth, complete with a pram, at the Millington Children's Fair and again on August 4 at the Bay City Yacht Club's Kids Day event. Our partially completed Eddy Cat was on display at the Wheeler's Landing Classic Boat Show and Open House in early June, and in August, Zak Bowdish gave a brief dry land demo of sailing to the Boys and Girls Club of Bay County.

These events let the community see what the SBCSA has to offer and adds to the renewed focus on the river in downtown Bay City.

Boat Building Class In the 2007 boat building session, we decided to structure the class so we would partially build two boats in each session by starting one boat and finishing the boat started in the previous class. This way we hope to teach all aspects of the boatbuilding process without the pressure of starting and completing a boat in one session. The finished boats will be raffled or sold as a fundraiser for the association.

In the 2007 session, we began a 13-foot Eddy Cat, which was originally built by Eddy Shipbuilding of Bay City, MI. The Eddy Cat was designed by Doug Van Patten in 1946 and built until approximately 1952. Starting from just some rough construction plans, we were able to get enough dimensions to enable the class to loft full size lines.

During the 2007 sessions we built the forms and frames, planked the hull, and built the mast. In 2008, we will loft and install deck frames, build and install the centerboard trunk, install floor frames and flooring, install seats, deck the hull, and sail the boat!

We are now determining the boat we will start as we complete the Eddy Cat. As time and interest permits we will use some class time to instruct students on fiberglass repair and boat maintenance using some of the boats in the SBCSA fleet.



VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers — what would we do without them? From serving countless hours as an Officer or as a member of the Board of Directors, teaching boat building, selling raffle tickets, staffing information booths, moving docks, cleaning boats, power washing docks, sanding daggerboards, painting just about anything, to sanding bottom paint (ugh!), our volunteers are a valuable asset to the association. It would be impossible to operate as well as we do without this group of hard working, dedicated volunteers. The following pictures are a tribute to their efforts.



Volunteering is a great way to get to know other members of the SBCSA while helping to keep us going. You don't need to know anything before hand, just be willing to jump in and get things done.

Boat Building Class - 2008

January 7—March 31, 2008

Monday and Wednesday evenings, 6—9 PM at the Gougeon Boat Shop, Martin St., Bay City, MI.

Cost: SBCSA membership (\$125 adult) + \$50 materials fee.

Call or email Bob Nelb to reserve a spot. Enrollment limited. bob.nelb@sbcса.org, (989) 922-SAIL (7245)

What's New for 2008?

Try Sailing Day Mark June 14, 2008, on your calendar now! This is the date for our 2008 Try Sailing Day. If the turnout is as good as it was this year, we will have plenty to do for any willing volunteers.

SBCSA—Bay Sail Regatta We didn't have our annual regatta with Bay Sail this fall because many their volunteers leave as soon as their season is over. In its place, we plan to kick off our 2008 season with a gala event in mid-June. Stay tuned to your email for details next spring.

Advanced Adult Lessons Recognizing that it may be a difficult jump from sailing Transfusions on the tranquil river downtown to sailing the larger boats, *Alongshore* or *Sharp Cheddar*, on the Bay, classes will be offered to teach adults how to sail these boats and navigate the Bay, all in preparation for their qualifying sail. There may be short adult classes with the FEVAs too. Again, stay tuned for details.

2008 Boat Maintenance Beginning around the 1st of April, we begin our spring maintenance. We have quite a list of repairs to do to boats and docks, and once everything is seaworthy again, they need to be moved downtown. Believe me, this is (usually) more fun than it is work, so join us in your spare time, and as Joe mentioned, what better way to learn than to practice on someone else's boat.

2008 Lessons The schedule for next year will be posted in the early spring. The 2008 lesson schedule is expected be similar to that of 2007 after adjusting for schools ending later in 2008.

Membership Renewal.

Now is a great time to renew your membership for 2008. You can download an application as a pdf file from our web pages or call Bob. Please list an email address that you monitor frequently as email is our preferred method of announcing activities. Note: If you joined after August 15, 2007, your membership is valid for the 2008 season.

Board of Directors

Officers

Joe Parker, President
Bill Darbee, Vice President
Roxanne Johnson, Treasurer
Bruce Niederer, Secretary

Directors

Tim Atkinson
Mike Carr
Bill Coberly
Brian Donaldson

Executive Director

Bob Nelb, bob.nelb@sbcса.org

Contact Information

Telephone: (989) 922-SAIL (7245) SBCSA
Email: info@sbcса.org P.O. Box 2122Web
page: www.sbcса.org Bay City, MI 48707

Fundraising Made Easy

GoodSearch All it takes is a few clicks of your mouse. The SBCSA has registered with GoodSearch.com. Now, any search conducted via GoodSearch credits our account and we will receive a donation at the end of the year equal to about a penny per search. Not a lot of money, but it adds up and it's easy! Go to GoodSearch.com, select Saginaw Bay Community Sailing as the organization, and search away. Purchases made through GoodSearch count too!

Kroger Cares Kroger will donate to us 5% of the proceeds used to "reload" gift cards registered to the SBCSA. Contact Bob Nelb to buy a \$5 gift card, go to any Kroger store courtesy desk to "load" the card with any amount of your choosing (using cash, debit card, or credit card), then use the card to pay for purchases made at any Kroger store or gas station. Every time the combined total amount "reloaded" on the SBCSA gift cards reaches \$5,000, Kroger sends us a check for \$250! You can still use your *Kroger Plus* card too!

For more information on either of these fundraising opportunities, please visit our web site, www.sbcса.org..

Donations

The SBCSA can offer affordable sailing opportunities only through of the generosity of its members and supporters. Because the SBCSA is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, all or a portion of your donation may qualify as a tax deduction on your federal income taxes. In addition, donations to the SBCSA's endowment fund with the Bay Area Community Foundation may qualify for a partial income tax credit on your Michigan tax return. Consult a tax advisor for details.

Cash Contributions to SBCSA. Contributions of cash may be sent directly to the SBCSA using the form below and the envelope provided.

Contributions to the Bay Area Community Foundation. Send a check payable to the Bay Area Community Foundation to the BACF, 703 Washington Ave, Bay City, MI 48708 with a note indicating that your contribution is for the SBCSA Designated Fund. The income from this fund is available for use by the SBCSA.

Donations of Boats, Equipment, and Materials. With the prior approval of the SBCSA Board, we will accept donations of boats, equipment, or materials. The association may choose to use the donated item or to sell it and apply the funds to meet other needs.

SBCSA CONTRIBUTION FORM

YES! I want to make a contribution to the SBCSA.

Name: _____ Amount: \$ _____

Address: _____

Please make checks payable to SBCSA, and mail it in the envelope provided to P.O. Box 2122, Bay City, MI 48707.
Please use this space for any comments about the SBCSA.

SBCSA
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Note: Please email info@sbcса.org if you would like to be removed from our mailing list.



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