



IN THE BREEZE

January/February Issue 2006

The “Janitor” is BACK... sort of

Keith Scoskie (the new President of some fancy dan alumni PILOT’s Association—boy what a glutton for punishment) has passed the Newsletter torch to none other than..... you guessed it ... Aris Tsamis... sort of.

At the last club meeting, I, sort of... “volunteered” to put together an interim edition of *In the Breeze* and by the end of the meeting figured “what the heck”! My hat is in the ring for Newsletter Editor for 2006.

Now don’t get me wrong, I’d hate to think that a more qualified member (you know, someone with a heart beat and even moderate grammar skills) would hesitate to throw their hat in the Editor ring also.

I can think of lots of folks who would excel at keeping us all informed with witty windsurfing limericks

and ribald tales of excitement on the water, but I won’t *Name Names*. This is a low pressure gig, or at least it ought to be.

So... if YOU are interested in the awesome power wielded by being the editor of *In the Breeze*, don’t hesitate to seek nomination at our February NTWR Meeting right here at Mariner Sails starting at 7pm on February 21st.

Here’s my campaign in a nut shell

Every household in America should have at least 2 windsurfers in the garage and a pile of accessories to go with them..... Oh, hold on, that’s my BUSINESS PLAN from 1984.... Ooops, the cat’s finally out of the bag.

Back to the Newsletter

It looks like we’re shooting for 6 newsletters for 2006.

Communication with members is a priority for the Club this year so we’ll be mailing or e-mailing out your newsletters as you prefer. We’ll also be posting the newsletter on the NTWR.ORG site so you’ll be able to access Club info from any computer easily.

Mark Prill has stepped up to the plate as webmaster for NTWR.ORG and has done a great job! Check out the site when you get a chance, new windsurfers should have an easy time getting excited about sailing locally with the wealth of information provided on-line.

As always, your suggestions and articles are both welcome AND vital to the success or our club. It’s so important, we’re going to BRIBE you to attend our Feb Meeting. SEE INSIDE FOR DETAILS Aris

“GET ACTIVE IN YOUR CLUB TODAY” SPRING 2006 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

4th February 2006
Clean-up -
Windsurf Bay Park—10am

21st February 2006
Club meeting
Mariner Sails - 7:00pm

18th March 2006
Swap Meet
Mariner Sails - 10am to 2pm

21st March 2006
Club meeting
Mariner Sails - 7:00pm

18th April 2006
Club meeting
Mariner Sails - 7:00pm

Events still Needing
Firm Dates

Spring Series Races—
March ?
Spring Intro to Windsurfing
May ?
Texas State Champs
May ?
Mariner's Youth Camp
June ?

<http://www.ntwr.org>

Officer Nominations for 2006

Elections will be held Feb 21st at our next NTWR Meeting

Commodore—This vital post is still open for nominations of qualified, interested members. If you have a vision of how you think the North Texas Windriders should progress and thrive in our endeavor to promote the enjoyment of windsurfing in our area, our dedicated member base will rally to your leadership. Remember—Awesome power means awesome responsibility AND awesome satisfaction.

Race Commodore—In his absence, **Bob McCord** was nominated and seconded, after speaking to him he is interested in the office. Many of you know that Bob has hosted Series Races at local lakes for windsurfers for the past 2 years and has been instrumental in the success of many of our Hallmark events including Race Director for the Pumpkin Cup.

Treasurer—**Brad Staal** has been nominated and is interested in this position for a second year. Brad has done a wonderful job organizing and managing the Club's finances for the past year.

Webmaster—**Mark Prill** has been nominated and accepted for this important communication position. The newsletter editor and webmaster work together to provide accurate and timely information for Club members. Mark volunteered to take over webmaster duties at the end of last year—Thanks Mark!

Newsletter Editor—Unless someone else steps up you may be forced to suffer the extensive ramblings of **Aris Tsamis** who was nominated and accepted nomination for editor. Blah, blah, blah blah blah. I'm just getting you prepared for the inevitable.

Secretary—This position is still open for qualified and interested members.

At the January NTWR Meeting volunteers accepted Lake Liason posts.

Bruce Moore—Ray Hubbard

Aris Tsamis—Lewisville

Keith Scoskie—Lavon

Jim Downes—Grapevine

Nominations are being accepted for all officer positions including those with current nominees. If you know of a qualified and interested member for any of the posts above, please confirm their willingness to serve before Feb 21st so they may be nominated and considered at the Elections.

Mariner Sails Youth Windsurfing Program

Mariner Sails will be hosting and sponsoring their Youth Windsurfing Program again for 2006. Last year's inaugural effort was a huge success mainly due to the efforts of volunteers, parents and of course our youth sailors. Starting shortly after the close of school in summer, Mariner will provide instruction, gear and sailing opportunities for children from our windsurfing community. This is a limited enrollment program. The program is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday evenings from 6pm till 8pm at Windsurf Bay Park. Please notify Aris at Mariner if you have a child who is interested in participating. He'll (oops, I'll) be happy to provide you with more information. This is not a "Drop off" program. A parent for each child must be present during the program ensuring we have a volunteer for every Youth Sailor. ^{Page 2}

SAFE SAILING AND SELF RESCUE Ken Merten

A recent personal incident at Lake Ray Hubbard brought to mind the importance of being prepared for a self rescue if something goes wrong while on the water. I will not try to cover every possibility in this article, but just a few basics.

Over the years (22 windsurfing), I have found myself in a variety of predicaments, non of which turned out to be very serious (broken booms, broken masts, lost fins, board / sail separations, no uphaul, broken outhaul line, ripped sails, broken mast extension, sudden storms, lightening and no wind).

My most recent experience was during New Year's week, when I was on my 9.5 sail and an old Gulftech carbon boom, which broke while casually sailing toward shore. The "snap" came while I was about 200 yds. from shore, but the boom did not completely separate from the head (I was just returning from the other side of the lake). I unhooked, grabbed the mast with one hand and the boom with the other, luffed the sail to reduce the forces and slogged to shore, where the boom

snapped completely off at the head. Since I couldn't hook in and the wind was moderate, my forearms were pretty pumped up when I got to shore. It would have been a lot more challenging had the break occurred a mile from shore. Rest stops to let the arms recover would have been a necessity.

Had the boom broken cleanly off while on the water, my options would have been limited. 1. Possibly hold the mast with one hand and the broken boom arm with the other (never tried this, but at best, progress would be very slow). 2. Sail clue first using the good side of the boom (difficult or impossible if it is very windy). 3. Drift to shore or flag down a passing boat. 4. Worst case scenario - Ditch the rig and paddle the board to shore.

I broke another boom several years ago, but I was sailing away from shore in the bay at Corpus Christi when it broke, so I just jibed and sailed back using the good side.

Windsurfers die most commonly from hypothermia (cold), so winter sailing should raise some red flags. However, you could die from hypothermia anytime of the year if enough variables combine to significantly lower your

body temperature. Things like water and air temperature, wind, clouds, rain, darkness, lack of protective clothing, physical condition, water chop, etc. are all factors.

The basic idea is if you do breakdown and you get stuck for several hours on the water, can you stay warm given the existing environmental conditions? Also consider that it may cloud over, the wind may pick up & the sun could go down. If your wet suit or other protective garments will do the trick in the worst case scenario, then have a good time. If not, reconsider your plan, or be sure you are sailing with a friend that will keep an eye out for you.

It is always a good idea to play the "what if" game. Consider when and where you are sailing, the forecast & the environmental conditions, then consider your possible options should the worst case scenario occur.

Remember, if you see someone else in trouble, do everything you can to assist. It may rob you of some sailing time, but one day, the favor may need to be returned.

Sail safe and have fun.

NORTH TEXAS WINDRIDERS
c/o Mariner Sails
10903 INDIAN TRAIL NO 100
DALLAS, TX 75229

2006 Dues are Due!

YES I AM INTERESTED!!

in joining the North Texas Wind Riders

\$25.00 Individual Membership Enclosed

\$30.00 Family Membership Enclosed

Racing is important

Social Events are important

Clinics are important

Other: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Work Phone: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Please Send replies to:

North Texas Wind Riders
c/o Mariner Sails
10903 Indian Trail
Suite 100
Dallas, TX 75229
for more info call
(972) 241-1498

How would you like to be reminded about upcoming events?

work phone home phone e-mail
Please e-mail my newsletter Please mail my newsletter

Please include my Information in the Club Roster

Thanks!