

The Trailer Tongue

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Newsletter of the Southern Idaho Sailing Association

Issue #14

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

By Commodore Dick Armstrong

What a closing weekend! Saturday began with near gale force wind out of the northwest, followed by a calm beautiful evening until 3:00 am Sunday, when the southeast wind began to build. By race time we were once again at near gale force wind, but from the opposite direction!

Racing was not possible, but a number of heavily reefed vessels enjoyed some cruising about C.J. Strike while kite sailors literally flew through the air and wind surfers smoked the tops of the waves. The turnout was tremendous with 15 boats for our last regatta, and even though the high winds kept Tom and Becky Valasek from sending boats about the race course we had one of the very best end of season parties ever!

We started with appetizers that included Rick Wilson's homemade salsa coupled with Bob's amazing Riverrita, a wickedly smooth, icy cold citrus delight served by the gallon. We then moved to the entree of the very best pork loin and vegetables you could ever imagine. There is something about slow cooking in dutch ovens that makes the flavor pop. It also could have been all the finely prepared garlic by Tina Klamt and Janet Gabiola or the secret spices by master chef Bob Entwistle, all we know is the combination was tremendous. This spectacular feast coupled with wonderful potluck salads and deserts was worth the trip itself.

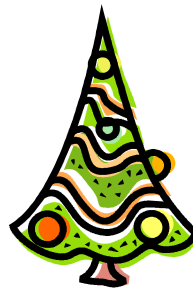
The wind stopped and a huge moon rose, casting a sparkling ribbon across the water. It captured our attention away from the roaring campfire and large circle of friends to remind us of how fortunate we truly are to live in Idaho. As the night waned, singles and couples slowly drifted off to bed leaving only Becci and me by the glowing coals. She said it was like old times and she missed them. I knew what she meant but had to chuckle. It was only 10:30 and we were the last couple standing.

In our season opening newsletter we talked about the value of learning to sail in all conditions. For me learning is constant and this weekend was a breakthrough as we finally figured out how to get good sail shape with a double reef. How fun! Balancing the sail area to the conditions can make for a smooth and stable ride. It has taken a long time to get over

the Hobie Cat method of trim which involves double trapeze versus reefing and sheeting out only when the leeward bow disappears under the waves. This season was a true test of handling meaningful wind.

The next event for SISA is the holiday party Friday night, December 7th at Lynn and Keith Sander's home. We will hold a special Pearl Harbor remembrance white elephant gift exchange so dig out those special prizes you want to share with someone special. More details will follow with a formal invitation in mid-November.

See you all during the holidays!



SAVE THE DATE!

Get your calendars out now and save Friday night, December 7, for the annual SISA Holiday Bash! Watch your snail mail or your e-mail for all the details!

A NEW COMMITTEE BOAT?

After all the heavy wind we sailed in this season, your Board has begun discussions around the possibility of replacing the *Rachel* with a newer model, one with more freeboard and better floatation. If you've been on the committee boat lately, you know that she doesn't do particularly well in high wind and choppy water.

So the Board is asking all SISA members to watch for a good buy on a pontoon boat. No rush, but if the right deal came along the Board would like to consider it. If you hear about a good deal, give Dick Armstrong a call at 343-3004 or drop him an e-mail at nildyte@cablone.net.

FOR SALE (Reluctantly)

Well-maintained Classic Lido 14 Daysailer, ready to sail, includes trailer. 1960 model with a kick-up rudder so the boat can be beached. \$1,000. For more information contact Bob Fish at 208-467-2621.

UPCOMING EVENTS

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Event</u> | <u>Location</u> |
|--------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Dec 7 | Holiday Bash | Sander's House |

