

Commodore's Corner



Ken Knapp

At the September Fleet meeting, the debriefing from Navarre Florida Nationals was exceptional and worked well for gathering ideas on future chalk talks and training venues. Fleet 204 provided a strong presence at the North American Championships (NAC) and fared well in the standings and overall performance. Thanks to all for showing their support, and especially **Mimi** for providing parking lot service with Navion style, shade and drinks. It was nice to come home and share the stories and lessons learned with the Fleet 204 regulars at the monthly fleet meeting. As newbies to NAC sailing, **Lynn** and I can attest to improving our racing skills and abilities by taking part in a big event. Having been Commodore the past two years immersed Lynn and I in the sailing way of life, enriching our sailing experience and network of friends. It's been an honor

serving as commodore, and with earnest appreciation I will turn the gavel (and Commodore's Corner!) over to **Dave Witmer** who courteously accepted being your Commodore, and **Tom Korz** as Vice Commodore. A big thank you to each of you and I will always be available to assist as needed. Our incumbent Treasurer **Bill Whalen**, and Secretary **Theresa White** are sitting on for another term and deserve to be applauded with a super-sized thank you! I especially thank the entire Fleet 204 family for the support and camaraderie that makes this fleet so great!

Best Regards,

Out-Going Commodore Ken, Fleet 204

Incoming Commodore's Corner



Dave
Witmer

There I was, at the September Fleet Meeting. All of a sudden, my life changed, right before my eyes. One moment I was just a member and the next, I was Commodore. Not just any Commodore, but the Fleet 204 Commodore. The fleet voted, and I won. It will be my pleasure to serve for the next year. Thank you to all who voted. Special thanks to **Ken K.** for his leadership as Commodore for the past two years.

If we have not met, my name is **David Witmer**. I have been a fleet member since 1988 (around there). Back then I knew nothing about Hobie sailing, I had just bought my first used boat and wanted to learn how it worked. I found the fleet and joined. Starting in C fleet, I went to regattas and won a few along the way. I moved to A fleet in about 3, maybe 4 years. My family, wife and two sons, support my sailing, although they prefer to stay on shore. They know I love to sail, but they have other interests. My brother, **John** understands the fun side of sailing and has sailed the Madcatter with me for just about all of these 30 years.

This will be an exciting year! Hobie Worlds will be in Florida in 2019. That is right in our backyard, compared to places like France, Fiji, Australia, and other regatta sites of the past. Hobie company will supply the brand new boats to be used. There are different divisions of competition. There are the Open, Masters, Grand Masters, Great Grand Masters, Women, and Youth classes. There will be sailors from around the world, here in the USA, all trying for a bullet every time they are on the water, and having slice of the Hobie way of life when they are on the beach. We are very lucky and proud to have sailors from our Fleet 204 qualify for the Worlds. Congratulations to **Tom K., Sue K., Herb J.,** and **Nicolas L.!** We also have **Billy J.** (our out-going Vice Commodore) on the list of possibles. He is in for now, but could get bumped. (Oh no!)

Our next Fleet Meeting is **Tuesday, October 9th, at 7:30.** If you are reading this, and haven't been to a meeting, come out and join us. Our meetings provide an excellent time to share ideas, plans, and find out what fellow sailors are doing. Looking forward to seeing you at Borio's!

In-Coming Commodore Dave, Fleet 204



Fleet 204 Meeting Minutes

Sept 18, 2018

Submitted by **Fluff White, Secretary**

Welcome – The meeting started at 7:45 pm. **Commodore Knapp** welcomed everyone to the meeting. All officers were there, except our Commodore of Vice, **Billy Jeffers**, who called in to reassure us that he was alive. Only 18 fleet members were in attendance again this month.

Secretary – August minutes were printed in the last newsletter. They were approved, signed, sealed, and delivered at this meeting. There were no amendments or changes.

Treasurer – **Bill Whalen** says that we have money in the bank - even after the Outing. If you have bills, get them into Bill. We are in good financial health.

Division updates – Our Division 16 Chair, **Adam Atherton**, is



fresh back from his European vacation. So fresh, in fact, that he decided that he wanted to stay chair for another year so that he can fix next year's scheduling problems. He's hoping to work more closely with Carol McVeigh to coordinate next year's Division 16 and Division 11 regattas to avoid the conflicts of this year. The Saratoga people want to become a fleet, so they will definitely make a regatta that will be on our schedule next year. Schedule starts now.

Adam also reported that we have a new suite of officers at the NA level, and Fleet 204 is well represented. **Herb James** is the North American Second Vice-Chair and **Robbin Mocarski** is still NA Women's Representative. Jason Sanchez is the new HCA Chair, Fred Whiting is

Treasurer, and Sheila Holmes is first Vice-Chair. Carlton Tucker Award went to Mike Montague. Because the Worlds are being held somewhat locally (Florida!), there has apparently seen a surge in boat sales. How to qualify for Worlds will be transparently posted very soon, but there is a definite algorithm that has been spelled out [*Editor's note: Look later in this newsletter!*]. Dec 15 is the date for commitment date for people who have pre-qualified based on their performance over the past two NACs and last year's points. There are 23 spots (20 with 3 petitions). We have several Fleet 204 teams who are definitely pre-qualified: **Herb and Sharon James**, as well as **Tom and Sue Korz**. [Good luck **Rob and Darcy!**] We proposed an amendment to the rules where anyone over 100 years old is automatically qualified, but who knows if the NAC leadership will accept the suggestion. The event will have four days of racing for the Masters, and three days of racing for the Grand-Masters, Great-Grand-Masters, Women's, and Youth. Refer to the World's website for more information.

In other news (or maybe not!), defibrillators for fleet safety will be reimbursed by the HCA. We should will try to get trained up on these things. RC training course might be a good idea for some areas, so that we can get more PROs. The division would consider paying for it. If you're interested, contact **Adam**.



North American Women’s Rep - Robin Mocarski said that she asked people not to put in a bid for a Women’s NAC next year because of the Worlds. Open NACs will still happen next year. Eight women skippers at NACs this year, but roughly half the competitive fleets are female. Meanwhile, we’ll continue to work on having fun.



Women Sailors at the 2018 North American Championships

Safety Message – Mimi Apple gave us words of wisdom when she said “Do not ride your bike in the dark.” Of course, it might not have been the dark but the storminess. Regardless, if you’re coming into a campsite, don’t go slowly through the gate when you’re towing a double stack. The damage to the gate can be severe. Other helpful safety hints involve bringing leather gloves to Florida regattas in September, because masts can be too hot to put up with bare hands. **Herb** says that the mesh tramps are too difficult in that climate to deal with because you lose skin. Wear shoes on and off the boat to protect your feet from the heat!!



Training Coordinator Update – We voted that **Rob** would become the training coordinator, since **Herb** seems to travel. **Tom** will remain as co-coordinator (say that 10 times fast!). Perhaps there will be a future chalk talk on jib breaking.

Past Regattas

- **CMOR - Tommy** apparently got lucky again. Or he’s good. Either way, he and **Karen Grisko** won it. There were 14 Hobie 16s and 2 waves. The Saturday of this event was probably one of the best days of sailing on Canandaigua Lake. **Sue Bennett** did a great job of running the races. **Mimi** is hoping to get more Waves there for next year. The yacht club is hoping for input on the dates, as NACs are in Sept., so August is possible for next year. In other ridiculous news, **Tommy** probably isn’t going to NACs, for worry about getting back into the country. **Safety alert:** CMOR Waitress dropped 22 dinners. So be careful when you’re carrying a big tray!



- **Hobie 16 North American Championships - Robbin** reported that the most important part of the event was that she got a bullet! She did her shots many times over. Everyone cheered whenever at 204 boat crossed the line in first - you could hear it across the water. **Ken Knapp** reported on his first NACs. He said that he and **Lynn** are still talking, and that they communicated very well, other



than rigging. They learned, and were able to improve their race performance every race, but feel that they could have done even better. It was working well – **Ken** was going up the middle of the course like a bat out of hell, according to **Robbin**. Ken would go to the NACs again, and that the best part was 5 days of continuous sailing, with the ability talk to someone different in between racing about what you can do differently the next day. The weather was extremely hot - many many bottles of water consumed. Mark Modderman gave hints on gybing that really helped — as did his idea of putting an extra (3rd one - 7 inches from the leading edge) tell-tale on the top part of the jib. Always a good time to write things down so that you can remember them. **Adam** says that suicide ports can end badly. Be careful doing that in a large fleet.

Future Regattas

- **Start thinking Worlds!** They're going to be in Florida before too long!

Social Committee Updates

Outing – Read the Bible, sat by the campfire, the usual stuff. Nothing to report here. No winners - at least as far as **Pat Bisesi** is concerned. No beer was consumed, but extras were brought to FLA. **Tom** says that there may be pictures of him with an Ultra in his hand, but that was only to stay hydrated. Cans of beer worked out better than the kegs, so that's something to keep in mind for next year.



Old Business

T-Shirts for nationals - Sharon's willing to do another run.
Burgee is being sold by Bob Longo — 3" burgee stickers for \$3.
We will order more burgees if people want them.



New Business -

- Elections. The deal with **Adam** and **Bruce** that was in the works fell through. So, we were casting about for a Commodore, and after significant negotiations, **Dave Witmer** agreed to be Commodore (thanks, Dave!) and **Tommy Korz** agreed to be Commodore of Vice. **Fluf** will remain secretary and **Bill Whalen** will keep his post as Treasurer for Life.



Rob motioned to adjourn, but his motion didn't take; people kept talking.
He tried again.
Not so much.
Instead, we all gave a hand of appreciation to **Ken** for his 2 years of service.
At that point, **Herb** put in a motion for adjournment, and **Ken** declared the meeting closed.

The next meeting of the Fleet will be **Tuesday October 9 at Borio's.**



2019 HCANA – Worlds Qualification System

Qualifications shall consist of 3 separate events. This system shall pertain to the upcoming 2019 Hobie 16 World Championships being held in the state of FL. USA

The first event will be the **2017 North American Championships**. The top 5 finishers at the 2017 event shall be pre-qualified for the 2019 Worlds. If one of the top 5 finishers elects NOT to attend the Worlds,

the qualification spot shall be moved to the next finisher down from the top 5 finishers. There shall be a move down cap of no more than 10 spots from the 2017 NAC's. Example: There are "5" allocated spots for this event, if the 5th place finisher chooses not to attend, the 6th position will assume the pre-qualification, and continue on to not more than 10th place.

The second event shall be the **2018 North American Championships**. At this event the top 10 finishers shall be pre-qualified for the 2019 Worlds. If there shall be an "overlap" of finishers from the 2017 NAC's, the next finishers down from already pre-qualified finishers shall move into the pre-qualification position. There shall be a "20 spot cap" for this event. If a participant chooses not to attend and had secured a pre-qualification spot, the next finisher down shall be given the pre-qualification spot. Example: There are "10" allocated spots for this event. If the 9th place finisher chooses not attend, the 11th place finisher would assume the pre-qualification spot and continue on to not more than 20th place.

The third and last 5 qualified participants shall come from the current **2018 HCANA Rankings**. Participants that participated in point's regattas throughout the year of 2018 shall be eligible for 5 pre-qualified spots to the 2019 Worlds. Beginning from the top point's holders within the rankings, and excluding all other pre-qualified participants, top 5 sailors in the rankings shall have secured a pre-qualification for the 2019 Worlds. If a selected participant chooses not to attend, the prequalification spot shall be moved down to the next sailor amongst the rankings. Example: There are 5 allocated spots available per the rankings. If the sailor who is ranked 5th in overall rankings chooses not to participate in the 2019 Worlds, than the sailors pre-qualification will then be passed down to 6th ranked sailor.

On-site Pre Qualifications:

This year the IHCA has determined that there shall only be 9 spots available for each IHCA Region for on-site pre-qualifications. Any participant eligible for a position shall have sailed a minimum of 3 HCANA sanctioned regattas during the year of 2018. The 9 spots shall be divided by the 3 events that the selected pre-qualified participants were selected from. This would be 3 spots following the pre-selected / pre-qualified sailors from the 2017 NACs, the 2018 NACs, and the 2018 HCANA Rankings. If a selected participant chooses not to attend than the selection shall roll down to the next sailor from the individual event. Please see selected participants listed and the event of which they were selected from.

Membership Information Form

Address Information	
Last Name	Home Phone
Address	Home e-mail
Address	
City, State, Zip (Country)	
His	Hers
Name	Name
Phone	Phone
e-mail	e-mail

Delivery options: We would prefer to receive the newsletter via:

US Postal Service or e-mail (Please double check your e-mail addresses above)

[Send to **Theresa (Fluffy) White**, 601 DeMong Drive, Syracuse, NY 13214]

Membership Summary

The membership statuses are: Complimentary or Regular. **Regular** (\$50.00) says you and your immediate family have opted to take advantage of all that Fleet 204 has to offer, fleet races, newsletters, parties, the Labor Day Outing, etc. Each February, your membership status reverts to **Complimentary** until your dues are received. Please mail your dues (checks only please, payable to **Hobie Cat Fleet 204**) to us with your membership information.

Contacts

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Fleet Website: <http://www.fleet204.com/>
Where are we: During the sailing season (approximately late April through late August), we can be found on Thursday evenings sailing out of Therre's Marina and the Caster residence, 6725 Lakeshore Road, Clay, NY 13041. Preparations usually start about 5:00pm with white flag at 6:00pm. Launching facilities may be found at Therre's. Take South Bay road to Oneida Lake, turn left, and you're there – first Caster's, then Therre's Marina.

204 Play
The Atherton Family
7888 Marina Dr.
Bridgeport, NY 13030

Address Service Requested

Next meeting is Oct. 9th
at 7:30 pm at
Borio's Restaurant
Lakeshore Road
Cicero, NY