

# REBEL RABBLE

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NATIONAL REBEL CLASS ASSOCIATION

March 1, 2003

## Attention Juniors:

Are you looking for a great sailing experience? Sail the Junior Nationals at Clark Lake this year. Five races, five times the fun!

Do you need a boat? We can help.

Do you need transportation to Clark Lake? **Maybe** we can help.

Are your parents invited? YES!

Can you camp on site? YES!

For more information contact  
Nick Tanis  
Cell phone: 517/ 520 4359  
Home 952/ 443 5541

E-mail CECE SMITH: [creativemomsmith@aol.com](mailto:creativemomsmith@aol.com)

Every year I swear I won't spend my vacation sailing again. Considering I say this annually, its surprising how much sailing I've managed to do each time the Nationals come around. I returned only to be bruised battered and have that great dent worn on my buttocks from hiking out, and yet at the end of the week I have a smile on my face and raise a glass to good friends present and past.

Is this any way to spend a vacation? Come to Clark Lake this July and find out. You may also find muscles, places to bruise and friends you forgot you had.

*Nick Tanis,*

Rear Commodore

## SALLY METZGER named DON MUSSELMAN AWARD RECIPIENT 2003

Sally Metzger was named the recipient of the DON MUSSELMAN MEMORIAL AWARD winner at the Spring meeting held in Grand Rapids, MI on March 1, 2003.

Metzger, Past Commodore, volunteer extraordinaire was selected for her unheralded dedication to the National Rebel Class Association over her many years of membership. Among other services, she was seen year after year manning the Race Committee Boat at nationals, accepting hails as competitors rounded the stern of the Committee boat prior to the start of each race. We could count on her diligent score keeping, her scrupulous insistence on accuracy, and her hearty smile and enthusiasm.

The Don Musselman Memorial Award:

This award will go to a member who has made an outstanding contribution to the National Rebel Class Association over the years. This award can be presented to a former active member or a current member. The award itself, a glass sculpture designed by artist Byron Lonsway, was donated by Shirley Musselman in memory of Don Musselman to commemorate his great love of sailing, the Rebel, and the National Rebel Association. Don had been a sales manager for the Ray Greene Company, first builder of the Rebel, and served in the National Association in many official roles as well as the Perrysburg, OH. Boat Club.

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NATIONAL REBEL CLASS ASSOCIATION

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810/750 1866 [nickelsboatworks@juno.com](mailto:nickelsboatworks@juno.com)

**Rebel Website Webmaster Chris Fromme**

412/492 0837 [rebelsailor@msn.com](mailto:rebelsailor@msn.com)

**Visit the Rebel Website:**

<http://www.rebelsailor.com>

**Obtain a copy of the Constitution**

[www.rebelsailor.com/constitutnbylaws.7.15.2002.pdf](http://www.rebelsailor.com/constitutnbylaws.7.15.2002.pdf)

**From the Editor's Desk:****THANKS AGAIN TO CLARENCE METZGER**

One of the major accomplishments of the last several years that Clarence has bequeathed to us is the designation of the NRCA as a 501 ( C ) 3 organization in the IRS code. This benefits the NRCA and the youth who we try to serve through our sailing activities. Thank you very much Clarence for your perseverance in obtaining this for the NRCA.

**WELCOME** to new NRCA Treasurer Wayne Rathbun. This major responsibility touches each of use through the collection of our annual dues, and the management of our expenditures to maintain a viable organization. Thanks for your efforts in advance Wayne.

**DUES ARE DUE:** If you haven't yet sent in your registration for 2003, please do so immediately. Active membership is \$30.00, associate membership is \$15.00. Please include street address, e-mail address, telephone number, boat number and fleet number.

Wayne Rathbun, Treasurer NRCA  
910 Westgate, Mt. Prospect, IL. 60056,

or e-mail address change info to: [scuppers1@aol.com](mailto:scuppers1@aol.com)

**RACING SCHEDULE:**

Reminder: Please take time to up-load your fleet's racing schedule to [www.ussailing.org/calendar](http://www.ussailing.org/calendar) and send a copy to Bill Blaine at [billmac23@attbi.com](mailto:billmac23@attbi.com). This is the US Sailing Calendar. Posting on this site may help you identify local unaffiliated Rebel Sailors and lead them to your fleet.

**E-MAIL ADDRESS:**

The **Rebel Rabble On-Line** is available to those with an e-mail address. We frequently send messages to members of the NRCA. **Please** send your current e-mail address to: Bill Blaine, Editor, at [billmac23@attbi.com](mailto:billmac23@attbi.com).

**FLEET REPORTS RECEIVED**

Fleet 23, Des Plaines, and Fleet 7, Grand Rapids

**CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES**

Issues relating to Rebel Specifications were discussed in the Administrative/Governance committee. No change was deemed necessary in review procedures as outlined in the by-laws.

**RABBLE REVENUE: BUSINESS CARD AD**

Members can support NRCA and the Rabble by sending in a check and copy for a business card ad. Let us know about your business and support the NRCA at the same time. \$25 for four issues. Deadline for copy and check **5/15/03**. Of course others can advertise in the Rabble for \$0.15 per word.

**Please, your e-mail address to Bill Blaine at [billmac23@attbi.com](mailto:billmac23@attbi.com). Take a minute and do it now.**



## COMMODORE'S CORNER

I recently met a kindred spirit in the rugby club. His wife (a New Zealander by birth) had encouraged him to try rugby, and although he was new to the sport he was quite enthusiastic and a ferocious tackler so he fit right in. As I grew to know him, I learned that his real passion was for sailing.

It turns out he and his wife were looking at buying a boat and joining the Grand Rapids Yacht Club. I did my best to convince him that he needed a Rebel, but he had already been snapped up by the Snipe sailors at GRYC. He had been considering a used boat that was available at the club and although my arguments seemed persuasive enough to me, his vision was to join an international class and compete (and win) against what he perceived as a larger number of quality competition.

I pointed out that the builder of some of the best Snipes and Lightnings available was also a Rebel sailor, but no amount of convincing could budge him from the belief that the boats he'd known as a boy were the best possible choice.

When the next opportunity to talk about sailing came along, he told me he hadn't actually bought the boat he had been looking at. "Why not?", I wondered. He thought that perhaps the boat wasn't as fast as its owner had represented. It might require too much in the way of new gear, preparation, or worse, it might already be overweight. He felt that buying a new(er) boat was the way to go, so he and his wife had put off the purchase to build up the necessary store of capital and to take time out for arthroscopic knee surgery during the summer (not caused, but aggravated by – rugby).

As I thought about that conversation, I couldn't help wondering to myself just what it is that drives sailors to buy a boat and race it. Why do people of diverse backgrounds who perhaps would not otherwise associate with each other – doctors, lawyers, tradespeople, salesmen, musicians, educators, retirees - all brave bad weather, long car rides, summer heat – change wheel bearings on the shoulder of the highway, and bear any number of other inconveniences to play

a game which, like golf, is frustratingly simple to play, subject to the whim of Mother Nature, but requires significant skill to win, and requires an encyclopedic mind to know all the rules? Is it winning? We've all heard Dr. Stuart Walker's oft-quoted line about winning being the object of the game, but not the object of playing the game. The satisfaction of improving? Getting better each time out – finally beating someone who has heretofore been almost untouchable? It's been said that there is nothing noble in being superior to somebody else. The only real nobility is in being superior to your former self.

So what is it really that makes us re-arrange our schedules when a fellow sailor calls looking for a third boat to race on the weekend?

What is it that makes us take young people we've never met, new girlfriends or wives, new members at the YC who may have never sailed or raced before, or just any stranger who volunteers, out on our boats, knowing that it may compromise our score that day or in the season series.

What is it that makes experienced competitors so freely share their knowledge and give continual encouragement to those of us who are less skilled?

Why do our long-suffering wives and families endure our absences or even follow willingly along on the interminable trips?

There are probably as many reasons as there are sailors, but the best reason is probably the simplest one. We do it for each other.

*Scott Wright*

### REBEL TRIVIA

Compiled by John Butzer  
Past Commodore

**Did the Rebel Association ever sail with a spinnaker?**

The class considered it about 1964-7 but ruled it out for official competition

**When did pictures first appear in the Rabble?**

1960 when commercial publishing was started.

**What was unusual about the District III Regatta in 1965 at Reed Lake?**

A tie was settled by a match race sail off won by George Carr over Tom Ehman.

**Who designed the classic Rebel Rabble Masthead and when was it first used?**

William Goldman: Rebel Rabble of February, 1967. He sailed with the DesPlaines fleet and worked for P.G.M., Inc. of Chicago

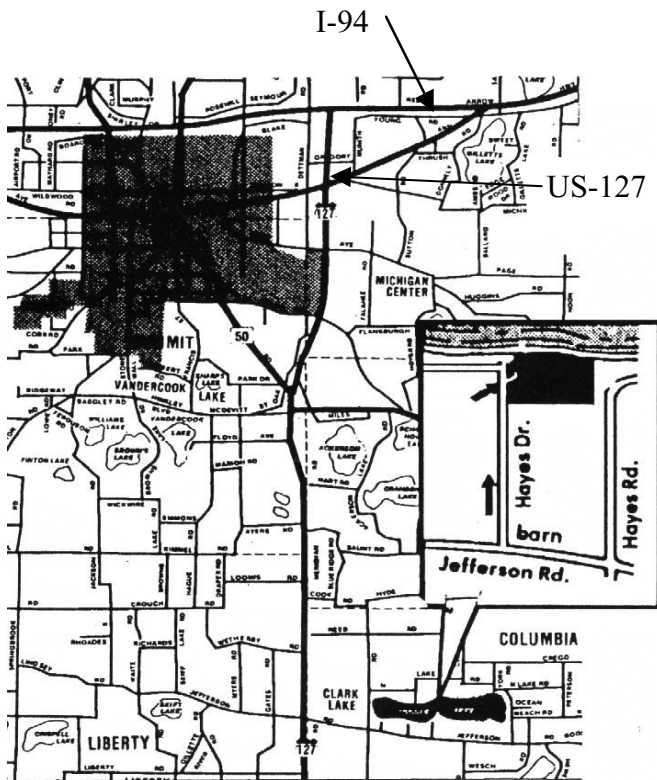
**When did advertising first appear in the Rabble?**

1961 to "defray costs of publication"

## Clark Lake Yacht Club Location

The Clubhouse and grounds are located on the south side and east end of Clark Lake.

From Jackson the Club is reached by following US-127 South, approximately 10 miles to the traffic light at Jefferson Road, where a left turn is made. Access to the Club is gained about 2 miles from the traffic light by turning left (North) at Hayes Drive which is the first dirt road east of Eagle Point Road in front of a large red barn. Bear right at the fork in the road ( 1/4 miles) to enter Club grounds.



Early reservations recommended as MIS races during the summer fill motels quickly.

## Hotel & Motel List and Prices Rebel Nationals

### Brooklyn

4.5 miles from club

- Chicago Street Inn Bed & Breakfast  
\$70.00 to \$85.00 Queen (3 rooms)  
(517) 592-3888  
\$155.00 Jacuzzi Suite (3 rooms)  
www.Chicagostreetinn.com
- Claddagh Bed & Breakfast  
\$69.00 Queen (6 rooms)  
(517) 768-1000  
\$89.00 Weekends
- Super 8 Breakfast  
155 Wamplers Lake Rd  
Weekdays \$65.50  
Weekend \$69.50  
(517) 592-0888

### Jackson

18 miles from club

- Fairfield Inn Pool, Spa & Breakfast  
\$68.95 King (517) 784-7877
- Hampton Inn Pool, Spa & Breakfast  
\$82.00 King (517) 789-5151
- Super 8 Breakfast  
\$55.00 King (517) 788-8780
- Holiday Inn Holidome  
\$79.00-\$109.00 King (517) 783-2681
- Baymont Inn Breakfast  
\$79.95 King (517) 789-6000
- Country Hearth Breakfast  
\$68.00 King (517) 783-6404

**2003 REBEL NATIONALS**  
**CLARK LAKE YACHT CLUB, CLARK LAKE, MICHIGAN**  
**July 13 – 17, 2003**

Schedule of events: Please check the message board at the Club for any changes.

A packet of information with restaurant listings, local sights, non-sailor activity schedule, etc, will be available when you check in at Clark Lake. Camping is allowed but there are no hook ups. We have a nice bathhouse with showers. Sorry, but pets are not allowed at Clark Lake Yacht Club.

For those with Internet access, try:

<http://www.rebelsailor.com>

<http://www.milive.com/local/thanks/index.ssf?ja>

<http://www.jacksonmich.com>

July 12, 2003 Noon to 5 PM - Registration – Weighing and Measuring (If you will  
Saturday arrive after 5:00 PM, call the Club at 517-529-9187 and let us know)

July 13, 2003 10 AM to 6 PM - Registration – Weighing and Measuring – Raffle tickets  
Sunday on sale.

9:30 AM – Board Meeting

12:30 PM – Juniors skipper's meeting

1:15 PM – Approx. Juniors Race 1 warning signal

2:00 PM – Approx. Juniors Race 2 & 3 warning signal

Meet with junior activity director after races

6:00 PM – Clark Lake Yacht Club Welcome Cocktail Party

July 14, 2003 9:30 AM – Approx. Juniors Race 4 & 5 warning signal  
Monday

10:30 AM – Brunch at CLYC

11:30 Noon – General Meeting

12:30 PM – Seniors skipper's meeting

1:00 PM – Approx. Races 1 & 2

6:00 PM – Shrimp Feast at CLYC

July 15, 2003 10:00 AM – Approx. Race 3  
Tuesday

11:30 AM – Lunch

1:00 PM – Approx. Races 4 & 5

Evening – Junior activity

– Seniors on their own

July 16, 2003 10:00 AM – Approx. Race 6  
Wednesday

11:30 AM – Lunch

1:00 PM – Approx. Races 7 & 8

6:00 PM – Steak Dinner and Raffle at CLYC

July 17, 2003 10:00 AM – Approx. Race 9  
Thursday

6:00 PM – Victory Banquet at Cascades Manor

- Cash bar

## **A SPECIAL INVITATION:**

Please join us at the Clark Lake Yacht Club near Jackson Michigan for the 2003 Rebel Nationals. We have a beautiful beach area, plenty of dock space, a lift, and ample dry dock spaces. Located on 10 acres, most of which is wooded, there is room for campers. We also have a nice bath house with hot showers. Our club house was the summer home of industrialist C.B. Hayes. The CLYC was founded in 1931.

The following, from the CLYC history, describes the beginning of the Rebels at Clark Lake:

“Royal Bengal Yacht Club was the name taken by the Clark Lake Yacht Club on its founding in 1931 in the basement of Pleasant View pavilion, later the Clark Lake Lodge. Following the war, there was little competitive sailing on Clark Lake.

In 1950, Eldred (Bud) Kennedy and former members decided the Rebel, a boat built in Toledo out of glass fiber and plastic epoxy resin, would be the boat they would use to reinstate competitive sailing on Clark Lake. Six were purchased by the members in late 1949, and in 1950 the Clark Lake Yacht Club began racing again, this time from Eagle Point. The fleet grew rapidly with 10 to 12 boats in the next few years.”



The enclosed swimming and beach area for children and the deeper area for swimmers and adults.



Boat launching area and beautiful Clark Lake.



Sailing continues through the winter at CLYC.

**2003 REBEL NATIONALS**  
**CLARK LAKE YACHT CLUB, CLARK LAKE, MICHIGAN**  
**July 13 – 17, 2003**  
**Registration Form**

Skipper \_\_\_\_\_ Sail # \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_ Fleet \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Crew(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Crew(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Children Attending (names & ages) \_\_\_\_\_ Sitting Services Required

\_\_\_\_\_ During Races Y \_\_\_ N \_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Spouses or Guests Attending (names) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Miles Driven \_\_\_\_\_ Motel Reservation Location \_\_\_\_\_

Plan on Camping at CLYC (Y or N) \_\_\_\_\_ Traveling w/motor home (Y or N) \_\_\_\_\_

**SORRY – BUT PETS ARE NOT ALLOWED AT THE CLARK LAKE YACHT CLUB**

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**Registration Fee** (per boat) postmarked by June 23, 2003 \$ 95 \_\_\_\_\_

postmarked after June 23, 2003 \$110 \_\_\_\_\_



**Sunday Night Welcome Party at CLYC (no charge)**

Hour d' ourves/cocktails

No. Attending \_\_\_\_\_

**Monday Night Shrimp Party at CLYC**

\_\_\_\_\_ Adults at \$13.50 each \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Children 12 & under at \$7.50 each \_\_\_\_\_

**Tuesday - On your own - Free Night**

**Wednesday Night Steak Dinner at CLYC**

\_\_\_\_\_ Adults at \$12 each \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Children 12 & under at \$6 each \_\_\_\_\_

**Thursday VICTORY BANQUET at Cascades Manor**

\_\_\_\_\_ Reservations at \$25 each \_\_\_\_\_

**Lunches at CLYC \$4.50**

Monday Brunch # \_\_\_\_\_ at \$4.50 \_\_\_\_\_

Tuesday # \_\_\_\_\_ at \$4.50 \_\_\_\_\_

Wednesday # \_\_\_\_\_ at \$4.50 \_\_\_\_\_

Thursday # \_\_\_\_\_ at \$4.50 \_\_\_\_\_

Total for lunches

\_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED**

**\$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Cancellations will be fully refundable until June 22, 2003. After that date, emergency refunds will be considered on an individual basis. **Please make your check payable to REBEL FLEET #2**

**Send your registration to:**

Mr. and Mrs. Leon Nowak  
2470 Glengarry Rd.  
Jackson, MI 49203

**ENTRY FORM**

**2003 REBEL JUNIOR NATIONALS**

CLARK LAKE YACHT CLUB  
CLARK LAKE, MICHIGAN

AGE REQUIREMENTS  
MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

Skipper \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Crew \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Crew \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Sail Number \_\_\_\_\_ Hull Color \_\_\_\_\_ Deck Color \_\_\_\_\_

WAIVER OF LIABILITY: By participating in this regatta, I understand that I voluntarily assume and am knowledgeable of the risks of sailing and I agree to hold harmless and free of any liability the National Rebel Class Association, CLYC, members of these organizations and employees or individuals appointed of volunteering for this regatta, for any damage or injury, material or personal, suffered by me during racing or other activities related to this regatta.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE  
(Parent/Guardian of Junior Skipper)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE  
(Parent/Guardian of Junior Skipper)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE  
(Parent/Guardian of Junior Skipper)

ELIGIBILITY: Juniors- must not reach their 18th birthday by July 1st, 2003. Skipper must not have skippered a Rebel in a previous National Championship Regatta (Senior Nationals).

Skipper must be a member of a family that holds a regular membership in the National Rebel Class Association, or a regular crew during the current sailing season for a regular member of the National Rebel Class Association, or a member of an organization that uses the Rebel sailboat in its program. Any youth sponsored by a regular member of the association will also be eligible to skipper in the Junior Nationals within the specified age parameters.