

SeaWind Express

Issue 20

Official Newsletter of the SeaWind Class Owner's Association

Winter 2013

Martin Takes Region 5 Championship

By Al Stiewing, SW #135

Twelve competitors gathered in Litchfield Park, AZ over the weekend of November 16th and 17th for the SeaWind Region 5 Championship. The remnants of a passing cold front left the Valley of the Sun with unusually cloudy and cool conditions. The upside to the weather was a steady 5 to 7 knot southerly breeze that built slightly in the afternoon as it shifted to the west. Sailed on a 5 leg windward- leeward course, the ideal conditions permitted the completion of 18 races over 6 hours which had a few, smiles still on their faces, begging for mercy by the end of the day. The conditions suited Kelly Martin as he captured 11 wins to build a solid lead over Dave Nydell and Mike Eades. Dennis Desprois and Rob Shaw overcame slow starts to pull themselves into contention by the end of the day.

The competitors and their wives gathered Saturday evening to socialize and swap stories at the local watering hole. Sitting outside, this year everyone remembered to bring a light jacket against the evening chill - a lesson learned last fall under similar conditions.

Sunday saw a return to traditionally bright

sunny skies and light breezes. The easterly was shifty and full of holes providing plenty of opportunities for gains and losses. A starboard tack carried to the middle of the pond could get you a little more breeze or a header. A drift toward the near shore downwind gate could reward you with a puff and a lift propelling you to the lead or strand you leaving you to wonder what you were thinking sailing into a hole. In any case it made for every interesting racing that saw no single competitor dominate the day's sailing. Kelly Martin's lead held to garner first while Dave Nydell managed to hold off a strong challenge from Mike Eades for second. The SeaWind class tradition of close competitive racing carrying deep into the fleet was again displayed as Dennis Desprois held on to 4th edging Rob Shaw whose last race bullet proved to be the difference against Hal Birkey on a tie breaker and Peter Jennings 7th place margin over Hap McGill was a mere 3 points after 27 races. Most importantly, a good time was had by all! Special thanks go to Al Stiewing, Race Director, who canceled his entry to run the event and Rowland Stevens for his work all weekend as scorer and mark observer.

Volunteers are essential to the success of any event. Also thanks to the committee of Hap McGill as Regatta Director and Dave Nydell for arranging the lunches, shirts, and trophies.

Summary Version:

Event: Region 5 Championship
Class: SeaWind
Date: November 16-17, 2013
Location: Litchfield Park, AZ
Host Club: West Valley RC Mariners
Entries: 14
Winds: 0-8
Races Completed: 27 (4 throw outs)
Scoring System: Low Point

Race Committee & Valuable Assistants: Rowland Stevens, scorer, Hap McGill, Regatta Director, Dave Nydell, Al Stiewing, Race Director

SeaWind Region 5 Championship Regatta (top 8)

Place	Skipper Points	Sail Number
1	Kelly Martin 46	19
2	Dave Nydell 74	224
3	Mike Eades 83	86
4	Dennis Desprois 100	02
5	Rob Shaw 113	709
6	Hal Birkey 113	293
7	Peter Jennings 132	90
8	Hap McGill 135	771



Kelly Martin as usual leading the field with the pack trying to close the gap. Rob Shaw seated.
Photo by Al Stiewing...additional photo, page 4...

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By Mike Eades, SW# 86

As you all will be aware the expected delivery of the first shipments of Readysset SeaWinds from Kyosho has yet to materialize due to delays in production from the new source in China. While this is certainly disappointing I'm afraid that personal experience reminds me that setting up new production facilities seldom proceeds exactly as planned. Currently Kyosho America are expecting the first shipment late in January which would mean the earliest we might see deliveries to US customers is early in 2014. Efrain Manzano at Kyosho America is keeping me informed and I will post any updates to this information in the SeaWind Resource Center Forum immediately on receipt.

The product information page on the Kyosho America web site has been updated with a little more information and photos from which it appears that the keel bulb will be steel instead of lead, a change driven by strict environmental regulations in Japan. The Thunder Tiger Victoria went through a similar change a few years ago and I understand even the top skippers are unable to find any

performance differences. The torque specifications for the sail winch would appear to be more than adequate but no speed data is given as yet. All indications are positive that the Readysset version will slot right in to our Class Rules and be a welcome addition to the SeaWind fleet. I will receive one from the first shipment and will publish an evaluation soon after I get it.

Some good news is that Tippecanoe Boats is delivering replacement sail sets. One of our local skippers received his new set within a week of order placement and is very pleased with them.

SCOA Class Officers:

- Secretary.....Mike Eades
- Technical Advisor.....Ken Bauser
- AMYA Regional Directors*
- Region 1 (NE).....Ken Bauser
- Region 2 (NE).....Vacant
- Region 3 (SE).....David Lawrence
- Region 4 (Central).....Andy Rust
- Region 5 (SW).....Bob Piper
- Region 6 (NW).....Doug Lanterman
- Region 7 (FL).....Darrell Krasoski
- Newsletter Editor...David Lawrence

SCOA:
From the Secretary's Desk

Let me have any feedback on these replacement sails and Tippecanoe's service if you have bought them.

Mention of the SeaWind Resource Center reminds me that an update here is in order. First, especially for our newer SCOA members, let me remind you all that this web site www.seawindrc.com has always been independent of the SCOA. It was created before the SCOA was formed and the webmaster, Augie Gieseke, has been very accommodating in providing us (me) a free web page for all our US-SCOA information.

However he is a free spirit and seems to take extended hiatus from time to time. At this point I have been unable to contact him for almost a year and there

Con't on pg. 3...

SeaWind COA Board of Directors Changes

By Mike Eades, Class Secretary

In the recent ballot AMYA membership approved the split of Region 3 moving Florida and the Caribbean into a new Region 7 effective January 2014. The next opportunity to change our SeaWind COA Bylaws to take account of this change will be in our next ballot at the end of 2014.

However our current Bylaws allow for "a maximum of 6 Region Directors each from a different Region". The Region 2 Director position has been vacant for quite some time despite attempts to find someone to take over.

I proposed and the Class Directors agreed to have Darrell Krasoski become Director Region 7 and to nominate David Lawrence to fill the position as Director of Region 3. In the next ballot I will include a proposal to change our Bylaws to allow our Directors to mirror AMYA's

Regional alignments to accommodate any future changes.

David Lawrence has served the SeaWind Class superbly as volunteer Editor of SeaWind Express since early 2010, has been an active member of the Richmond, VA MYC for several years and has, through traveling to a few SeaWind NCR's, become well known to a lot of our membership around the country. I am delighted that David has agreed to serve as Region 3 Director and welcome him to the SeaWind COA Board of Directors.

Sails worn out? Need new ones?

As a reminder, class approved replacement sail sets are now available for sale! Sail corners are offered in a variety of colors; battens and luff tube, with Spectra forestay, are included.

Contact Will Lesh at

Tippecanoe Boats

fun@modelsailboat.com

Or

800-206-0006

Tippecanoe boats is the only class approved supplier of after-market SeaWind sail sets!

\$79.00 per set, plus \$12.50 shipping

Pssst...Hey you...yeah, YOU!

Got a Good SeaWind Story or Idea?

Tuning tip? Building idea? I'll bet you do! If so, why not submit it in Word format to me, David Lawrence, Editor, and we'll get it published in the next issue of SWE!

All submissions are welcomed!

This is YOUR newsletter- please contribute!

dllawrence@yahoo.com

2014 SeaWind NCR!

The 2014 SeaWind National Championship regatta will be hosted by the Housatonic MYC at Hop Brook Lake, Middlebury, CT in late September/early October. Exact dates will be advised as soon as plans are finalized. Hope to see a great lineup there!

Make Early Plans to Be There!!

2013 Results - Season Series, Sacramento Model Yacht Club

Place	SKIPPER	Pts.
1	Jeff Romero	14
2	Mark Erdrich	19
3	Eric McCollum	24
4	Jeff Snyder	32
5	Dan Robinson	33

Listed are the top five finishers in the Sea-Wind season series at the Sacramento Model Yacht Club. There were 18 skippers participating in the series.

Suggestions for format or content for upcoming issues of the SeaWind Express? We'd love to hear them! Please send them to:

David Lawrence, at dllawrence@yahoo.com

Or

Mike Eades at swcs@w3az.net

Sec. Desk, from pg. 2...

are a large number of items that I have sent for him to post and update the web page that as yet have not been posted. I would especially remind members that the current Class Rules and latest Sea-Wind Express #19 are not yet posted. However the AMYA SeaWind Class page (<http://www.theamya.org/boats/seawind/>) is up to date. Keep an eye on this web site and the AMYA Regatta Schedule for current SeaWind Class information.

2013 saw the lowest level of Regatta activity for some years with only the National Championships and the Region 5 Championship being sailed this year. I hope we can look forward to a full slate of Regional Championship Regattas in 2014; they are the lifeblood of the class! The NCR is scheduled to be hosted by the Housatonic MYC in Middlebury CT in late September or early October and I look forward to seeing many old friends and meeting new ones at that event. Let's get those Regionals planned and posted in the online AMYA Regatta Schedule!

Regatta Report

Event: 2013 Richmond Model Yacht Club Seawind Championship Regatta
 Class: Seawind
 Date: November 17, 2013
 Location: Glen Allen, Virginia
 Host Club: Richmond MYC
 Entries: 7
 Winds: 3-10 mph
 Races Completed: 6
 Scoring System: Low Point
 Regatta Committee: Stephanie Sweeney, Bobbie Lawrence, Kathy Suydam

Results:

Skipper	Points	Place	Total
Randy Pfrunder	13	1	13
Rob Suydam	15	2	15
Charlie Fawcett	20	3	20
Al Anderson	28	4	28
Dave Clark	33	5	33
DL Lawrence	35	6	35
Jeff Conklin	46	7	46

Pfrunder Wins RMYC SeaWind Club Championship Regatta

By Rob Suydam, SW#347

The Richmond Model Yacht Club held its first SeaWind Club Championship on November 17, 2013. The regatta was postponed in October due to the remnants of Tropical Storm Karen. We knew the leaf litter was going to be a problem this late in the fall, and we prepared ourselves for it. When we got there we knew it wasn't enough. It was awful. Light winds the day before were not sufficient to clear the lake, and the first several races in the morning's light air were very disappointing. That is, for everyone but Charlie Fawcett, whose boat sailed magically to win the first two races! Eventually the wind picked up, and moved much of the debris to the shore.

This November day was book-ended by two fronts, one the day before and one the very next day. Southerly winds of 5-10 were steady, yet shifty enough for great tactical windward sailing. Randy Pfrunder put his Star "big boat" racing experience to work, and proved that he key to winning a regatta is consistency. Rob Suydam and Charlie Fawcett were second and third respectively.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to Stephanie Sweeney for taking time out of her big boat racing to RD for our event that day. To Bobbie Lawrence for the baked goods, and to Kathy and Liz Suydam for delivering our lunch!

*See summary, above...
 Photo, pg. 5...*



Allan Vinson # 384, Dennis Poole #174 and Gary Spendlove #717 lead the usual closely bunched fleet in the Region 5 Championships. Photo by Al Stiewing

Elk Grove Model Yacht Club Season Series Results

- 1. Mark Erdrich 9 pts
- 2. Steve Vaczovzky 13 pts
- 3. Walter Witt 27 pts

9 skippers participated in the Club Championship Series this year. Thanks to all who participated— we look forward to a competitive 2014 at the EGMYC!

Housatonic Model Yacht Club 2013 Summary

HMYC races Seawinds on Thursdays and Sundays throughout the season. The Thursday fleet has a Spring series and a Fall series. Sunday races count for the entire season. Results for the 2013 season are:

Seawind Thursday Spring Series consisted of 48 races over six Thursdays. Seven skippers participated in the series. Results are:

- 1st John Arkenberg
- 2nd Fred Goebel
- 3rd Dick Chandler

Seawind Thursday Fall Series consisted of 16 races. Seven skippers participated in the series. Results are:

- 1st Fred Goebel
- 2nd John Arkenberg
- 3rd Dick Chandler

Seawind Sunday Season Series consisted of 56 races held over seven Sundays. Nine skippers participated in the series. Results are:

- 1st John Arkenberg
- 2nd Fred Goebel
- 3rd Ken Bauser

HMYC has 15 skippers with Seawinds and expects to see more participation in 2014 since the club will be holding the NCR in the fall.

NTMYC Final Standings, top 10

	<u>Skipper/Sail #:</u>	<u>Pts.</u>
1	Mauricio Dantas	41
2	Eric Rosenbaum	50
3	Ron Sinclair	53
4	Bob Piper	76
5	Chuck Williams	78
6	Dennis Corder	81
7	Rich Hoffman	81
8	Chandler Hill	132
9	Sam Foreman	134
10	Ken Lee	135

A “Member Moment” with Rob Suydam, SeaWind #347

How old are you, what is your occupation, and where do you live?

I am 47 years old, work as a Land Conservation Specialist for the Virginia Department of Forestry, and live outside of Richmond, Virginia.

What was your first exposure to sailing?

My father bought a San Juan 26 in the mid 70s and we began racing it on Smith Mountain Lake. From there we bought Lasers, which became my main form of sailing.

What was your first RC vehicle?

My first RC vehicle was a car, but my father was a prolific RC flyer.

Do you sail any other classes competitively? I sail RG65s, IOMs, and Vics. Each class has its own strength and uniqueness to it. In the case of the Seawind, the strict one-design class rules, ease of construction, and quality performance make it an outstanding boat.

Do you still, or have you sailed or raced 1:1 scale?

I have raced keel and centerboard boats in years past, but now sail only RC.

Best advice for someone new to the hobby?

Don't hesitate to ask questions about how to sail, race, or build a boat. Once you become comfortable with racing, which is what we do, don't lose sight of the primary goal of fun. Many big boat racers yell, scream, and at times curse at each other and think it is okay because once off the water, all is forgotten. It's a lie they convince themselves is true. In actuality it's disrespectful, no one forgets, and above all it's not fun.

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**Tech Topics Index compiled by Rob Fresh, updated Jan 1, 2012. All issues are available for download at the SeaWind Resource Center website, www.seawindrc.com*

North Texas Model Yacht Club Summary

The North Texas Model Yacht Club (NTMYC) has been sailing the SeaWind class since 2006.

Each year we hold an inner club series of races to keep our skills up, and the class active. This has worked well for us as we have produced some top skippers in the SeaWind class.

We normally hold 6 sail days with 6 races on each of those days. We only actually count 5 of the race days and 5 of the 6 races on any day. So basically you get a drop of a day, and a drop of a race per day. This makes it easier for our skippers if they need to miss a day.

This year we had 12 skippers competing. Mauricio Dantas the 2012 Region 5 champion is our first place skipper, with Eric Rosenbaum the 2013 national champion right behind.

All of our club gains tuning skills and sailing knowledge with each outing. If your club does not have something like this, you may want to start. It is a great way to keep the class active and learning!

See Results, pg. 4...

Member Moment, con't...

Good hard racing can be conducted in a respectful manner. In addition, remember than even those with the best eyesight will have problems judging distance. Not every foul deserves protest, and good judgment will always prevail.

What other interests do you have other than RC sailing?

My bicycle is my guiding light, and I have been a competitive cyclist for many years. I have won Virginia State Championships in road, time trial, track, and mountain bike. I currently race in the Masters category, with my focus now in the discipline of cyclocross.



A crazy start at the 2013 Richmond Model Yacht Club SeaWind Championship-- Randy Pfrunder, 454, gets the edge, and would go on to win the regatta...