

Venice Women's Sailing Squadron
Bitter Ends 2018-2019 Kick Off Meeting
August 29, 2018

Captain Gloria Casey called the meeting to order at 11:02 A.M. in the home of Sylvia Turner.

Captain Gloria welcomed everyone to the meeting. She discussed her theme for the year which is Celebrate! We will be celebrating that we are in the top percentage of women who are active in sailing and racing. We are here to do something that we love by choice.

Captain Glo discussed our fun summer activities with a big Thank You to Nancy Marik for her photos and collages that she put on both our Website and Facebook page. We went fossil hunting, kayaking, yogaing, and took a tour of Tampa. We showed our creative side with two art days, fun with Capt. Ron, cooking with Sylvia and gaming. Capt Glo proudly displayed both her beautifully made flat puff pastries that were cooked in her own deluxe toaster oven, and a gorgeous Tshirt painted and enhanced for her granddaughter to be.

There will be a cocktail party at Gloria's house on Oct. 27, 2018 as a follow up to Learn to Sail week. All sailors should bring a framed photo or print of themselves in their past career(s)

Karen Williams, Scheduler, shared our schedule for the year. There will be 3 series; the Educational Series, Race Series 1 and Race Series 2. Our home interclubs will be on November 7th and May 1st. Racing Season 1 is scheduled from November 14th – February 7th. Racing Series 2 is scheduled from March 6 – May 29th. FWSA meetings are on Sept 18th, January 16th and May 16th.

Susan St John, Learn to Sail and Interclub Chair, discussed the Learn to Sail program scheduled for the week of October 22nd. There are 5 students signed up, all with no experience. It will run from 9-3 on M, T, Th and F. On the water instructors will be Ann Carroll and Susan St John. Susan is working on her new program which will include 2 knot tying stations, and a booklet with handouts to compliment the sailing book. Recent purchases include life jackets, whistles, white boards and a bull horn. All members are encouraged to sign up as volunteers. Sailors will be color coded by their experience level. The Swim, Lift and Capsize tests will be on Monday October 15th. Bill Chotkowski and Kim Whiteman will be manning a pontoon boat to assist with the capsizes test.

Susan St John discussed the interclubs coming up in October and encouraged sailors to sign up.

Anne Chotkowski, Vice Captain, past treasurer and acting as current treasurer for Janet Molen, presented our finances. We have a current balance of \$2204.00. She also shared our income and expenses over the past year and the costs of maintaining our 10 rental boats. The cost to rent a boat is being increased to \$200.00/year to offset these expenses. Full Club membership remains the same at \$150.00/year and boat storage fees remain the same at \$185.00/year. All forms are now available to be filled out and submitted with your fees.

Capt. Glo, acting on behalf of Race Captain Pam, reported that there is a need for both

committee boat drivers and volunteers. To volunteer, please contact Pam. Our first sail date is Sept 5th to test out your boat or a different boat. Plan on our race days being an all day event from 8-3. We will have our meeting, sail, put our boats away and go to lunch to discuss the day's racing. Sunfish and IODs will continue to sail on Course A. Prams and New Salts will sail on Course B.

Karen Miller, Pram Fleet Representative, reported that there will be 5-6 Prams sailing this year on Course B. Karen stated a concern among sailors of the ineligibility of the Pram fleet to earn an award this past sailing year due to various factors that affect Pram sailors but not Sunfish sailors. Attendance for Pram and New Salts will be based on Course B sailing days which may be different than Course A sailing days. Course B will be considered a separate fleet with 2 divisions, a Pram division and a New Salt division. Sailors will compete against each other for attendance reasons but awards will be based on the ranking in their division.

Gloria, acting as IOD representative for Claire MacFayden, reported that Optis will be sailing on Course A. There are 7 rentals available including two used ones bought this past year. All rentals have new sails and flotation bags.

Marge Whiteman, Sunfish Representative, reported that the Sunfish Fleet has one Sunfish available for rent. All three rental boats are in good condition. There will be between 16-19 Sunfish sailors this year.

Captain Glo reported that the requirement to become an Anchor member has changed to two years of full time membership effective immediately. Current Anchor members will be "grandfathered in" if they do not meet these requirements. Discussion was raised on increasing the annual fee for Anchor members to \$50.00/year. The board will vote to consider this change.

Ann Carroll, Education Chair, discussed the Educational Series that will run from Sept 5-October 31st. There will be 20-30 minutes of drills based on the "sailing skill of the week" followed by two races. A recap by the sailing educators of what they saw on the water will be discussed at lunch post sail with the location at different local restaurants or at Higel Park depending on weather. Lunch will be organized by Marge Whiteman. Sailors should plan on a sailing day from 8 am to 3 pm.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Susan St John at 12:28 pm. This was seconded by Nancy Muldoon.

Respectfully Submitted

Marge Whiteman
Acting as Secretary

