

CROOKED LAKE SAILORS NEWS

Update from the Board - By Todd McKinney, CLS Board Chair 2021

As many of you know the last two years have witnessed dramatic growth for CLS. Student enrollment and total student weeks has nearly doubled during that time, enabling more youths – and adults – the opportunity to learn and practice this sport we all love...one that we can all enjoy for a lifetime. That's what CLS is here for!

With this growth comes certain challenges. Most notably, we reached capacity last summer for many of our class sessions, which unfortunately caused us to turn away some prospective students, which we certainly do not want to do. However, in the interest of maintaining high quality instruction along with ensuring student and staff safety, attendance for several popular weeks had to be capped. Skip and Abby are working to increase our instructor staffing at both senior and junior instructor levels for summer 2022, but firm class size limitations related to equipment and physical space will persist. So, for those planning to attend CLS classes next summer, I recommend you sign up early to ensure a spot is available.

Also, costs associated with running the Sailors are rising, just like everything else these days. Insurance, equipment acquisition and maintenance, staffing, etc. are all becoming more expensive. While we have



always kept our student fees as low as possible – and try to help those students in particular need with donated scholarship funds – we will be raising our fees for both youth and adult classes this summer. However, we believe you will agree that spending time sailing with CLS remains among the best bargains available for summer activities. Along with CLS's growth comes an increasing need for volunteer help! Several individuals have stepped forward to help us in communications, signups, merchandizing and fundraising events. We welcome anyone who has an interest in becoming involved with the Sailors to let Skip

know.

Also, there are a few changes taking place at the Board level for the CLS. While I will stay heavily involved in the activities of the Sailors going forward and will remain on the CLS Board, as incoming Commodore for the Yacht Club; next year I will be leaving the CLS Chair position. Taking over as Board Chair for CLS will be Max McKinney, who as many of you know led the Sailors' instruction as CLS Director for a number of years prior, and obviously knows the



**Director's Corner
(Abby)**

Hello Sailors! I hope everyone is doing well. Although it's a tad bit too cold to sail on Crooked Lake right now, we have been working hard to prepare for another fun and safe summer of sailing. I am currently working on putting together some fun new lesson plans for both beginner and advanced students!

organization and activities of the Sailors inside and out. He will bring a great perspective and capability to the Board. Finally, you will notice a lot of positive changes to the physical facility at the Yacht Club this summer. After years of fundraising, property acquisition and construction planning, the Club is moving to complete the paving and other improvements to the west parking and marina area this Spring. Also, a full structural renovation and kitchen expansion for the clubhouse has already begun, with completion planned before this summer's season. It is indeed an exciting time for the Yacht Club and CLS's home.



With that, we send our best to our Sailor friends for a safe and happy winter season!

**Update from Executive Director Charles
"Skip" Magrum**

I hope everyone had a great holiday season! I am working on a few activities towards next season's sailing school. We hope to distribute these CLS News Letters throughout the year to keep you updated with our plans and activities. We hope you find them informative and fun to read. Near the end of the 2021 season we had 7 new volunteers join us. They include Jill Magrum, Lara Fine, Mary Fletcher, Norma Ibarra, Justin Steckley, Megan Hunt and Liz Lynch. We are looking forward to the additional help, which will allow us to perform additional tasks to help the sailors. Justin and Norma have volunteered to publish our newsletters. Mary Fletcher will staff the CLS phone and answer questions about our sailing school. Jill Magrum will be the CLS secretary. Megan Hunt will be putting together our 2022 Brochure and Liz Lynch will coordinate community relations with other organizations, fund raising and advertising of CLS programs. Lara Fine will be helping with distribution of our brochures. We welcome all our new volunteers!!!



For the 2022 season, we are working towards improvements to the lake side of the Yacht Club. The Sailing Instructor's Office (shed) will be expanded approximately 20 sq. feet and moved north towards US-31. These improvements are necessary to accommodate the increase in numbers at both CLYC as well as CLS. Additionally, we will be installing concrete



Fun Facts about CLS

Did you know...

CLS is only 11 years old and was founded by Margie Graham.

Chris Weber purchased and donated 6 Opti sailboats with a trailer and equipment to get the program started.

Fun Fact about Sailing

The phrase "feeling blue" originated at sea. What a ship lost its captain during a voyage, the sailors would sail blue flags, indicating their loss. Today, when you say you feel blue, you are feeling sad.

The youngest person to circumnavigate the world was 16-year old Laura Dekker from the Netherlands.

Submit articles!

We are in need of articles, anecdotes, and pictures to continue bringing this newsletter to everyone! Please submit yours to crookedlakesailorssocial@gmail.com

under the tent area and fill dirt in other low lying areas to enhance the lake front and reduce standing water and mud. The ramp used to move small boats in and out of the lake will be replaced to reduce the safety hazards. We are hoping to make these improvements before the 2022 sailing school season begins. Presently, I am making some improvements to our sunfish fleet; revitalizing the dagger boards and rudders as well as repairs and enhancements to the Mot Mot coach boat. We were fortunate enough to have one of our members donate a beautiful 22 ft. O'Day and we will be getting that ready to set sail.

I look forward to a beautiful summer of sailing.

Instructor Sailing Testimonials

By Keller

I am 15 years old and I live just outside of San Francisco, California and I come to Michigan to visit my grandparents every summer. My parents enrolled me in CLS when I was nine because they were trying to find something for me to do. For the first couple of summers, I wasn't really interested, so I only signed up for a week each summer, but in more recent years I have sailed all summer because of the friends I made and kept seeing each summer. I love spending time on the water with my friends and trying new skills. I don't really like the big races, but I do like racing with my friends for fun. I enjoy teaching kids how to skipper boats and letting them feel in control. When I'm teaching, I have the most fun with the games we set up for the campers. It's fun getting to know the kids each summer and to see how everyone has changed when they come back the next year. When I'm not teaching, I like reading, watching shows on Netflix with my family, and hanging out with my friends and my sister. I also have a sunfish named Daisy that I sail on my own.

I'm trying to learn about winemaking because I think I might want to pursue a career in the wine industry when I'm older. If I could tell the campers any one thing, it would be that new experiences are good. When you have the chance to try something new, you should.

How to sign up for Summer 2022 Sailing

Go to crookedlakesailors.org to sign up. The 2021 season was CLS' busiest year on record with over 150 campers. We anticipate the 2022 season to be just as busy as 2021 and encourage parents to sign their children up as soon as possible.

CLC Sailing boats and equipment for sale

- 2 - Opti's 2006
- 1 - 15' Harpoon 1978 w/trailer
- 1 - 14' O'Day w/trailer
- 2 - 16' Hobycats - 1975
- 1 - Sunfish 1984
- 1 - Thistle 1949
- 1 - 6HP Evinrude Fisherman -old
- 1 - 2.5 HP Suzuki 4 stroke 2019

Please contact Skip Magrum for further information: 231-330-5849

Donations always appreciated!

Donations to CLS can be made on



schooling and honing my sailing techniques with CLS. But other than that I don't know what I want to do in the future, but I do know that in my future I will own a Mustang.

By James

I am 13 and live in Saginaw, Michigan. In the summer, I spend time at my grandfather's cottage on Maple Bay of Burt Lake. I got interested in sailing mostly from my dad. He first showed it to me and he wanted me to try it so, I tried it and I loved it. I've been sailing for 5 years now. I like sailing because it's something I can do that I like besides being indoors in front of a screen.

One interesting story is from my 4th year of sailing lessons. My instructors drove around in their boats trying to throw a ball at one another. It was funny. I would tell my 8 to 12 year old self that I really wished I knew how to do more outdoor stuff. Back then I usually sat on a screen all day and I now know that is pretty much a waste of time.

My future plans are to be a doctor or a baseball player.

By Sebastian

I am currently living in Cotonou, Benin located in West Africa. My family and I come home to Petoskey every summer. I am 15 and attend Quality Schools International Benin. My interest in sailing started a few years ago when I tried sailing at CLS for a week. Fast forward 6 years and I am still loving it. The best story I have about CLS is when I went sailing on a 420 with two of the three Thuente brothers: James and Nick. James and I were chatting while casually sailing and heeling over. Suddenly, we started turning away from the wind. We had our sail pulled in and then we both started screaming at Nick to start turning us back into the wind, but when he did not reply we both looked back and found he had fallen off the boat. Then at that very moment, we capsized. Once we all got back together near the boat, we were a bit shook up, but safe. While it was a bit unsettling, we were able to get the boat back up and continue sailing.

I am interested in video games, sailing, music, and since I don't have much free time, a lot of homework. If I were to tell my past self something, it would be to concentrate more in school and to probably stick with musical instruments I used to play. I haven't defined my plans for the future yet except finishing my schooling and honing my sailing techniques with CLS. But other than that I don't know what I want to do in the future, but I do know that in my future I will own a Mustang.



To close up, I want to share this picture I took of local Beninese people using homemade sails on their fishing boats to catch the wind to allow them to return to their villages fast after a long day of fishing. I have lived in four countries aside from the U.S. and have seen local people sailing in each country. Sailing is a skill we can take anywhere in the world!

By Jacob

I am a sailing instructor at Crooked Lake Sailing Club! I am 18 years old and have lived most of my life here in Little Field Township. I enjoy the many lakes and numerous outdoor activities. I am currently attending North Central Michigan College which is a local community college in Petoskey. I am currently studying to earn my science 400 degree, which is my first step into surgery!

Being around six large lakes within driving distance, I have grown up loving the water (and honestly, sailing around like a pirate sounds pretty cool). I first started sailing when I was nine years old and although I cried the first time, I quickly learned that sailing is very calming, rewarding, and exciting. I have sailed for a few years now and definitely enjoy going every time. Besides sailing, my hobbies include boating, having campfires, building things, and playing video games.

My favorite experience sailing was when I spent a couple hours sailing around Crooked Lake heeling my boat over as much as I could without capsizing. If I'm ever in a boat that starts to tip I will know when it will capsize or not, and enjoy it as long as the water is not too cold. The excitement and experience helps me stay calm during situations that may make most new students scared, which helps me guide them into a more comfortable situation.

I love working as an instructor because I enjoy working with kids who want to learn something new and fun. Although I am a bit quiet sometimes, I am comfortable interacting with kids and view them as potential friends because of how great they always are and excited to sail with me!

If I could tell my younger self one thing, it would be to not be afraid of sailing and explain that even if you capsize you can get to go swimming. Sailing might have been terrifying to me at first, but now it brings me lots of excitement.

In the future, I want to study pre-med at a larger university and then transition to medical school. From there, I plan to work my way into general surgeries and later specialize in a more advanced field of surgery. I would like to end up herein Petoskey/Alanson because this is where I grew up.

