

## **Minutes of NIHSA August and September planning meetings held on 8/12/2021 and 9/9/2021**

If you were unable to attend the August and/or September planning meetings, here are some of the main items to report:

The **August meeting (8/12/2021)** was held poolside at the house of Peter van Gelderen and his wife Guoying. Many attendees enjoyed splashing around in the pool and then enjoyed delicious food prepared by Guoying and brought by attendees. Items discussed included:

A marvelous graduation party for students who completed this year's sailing course was held in Taffy (and Jim) Turner's lovely backyard patio and garden. About half of the students attended. Many instructors and otherwise involved members were also in attendance. There was a great sufficiency of delicious food and good spirits. The garden tour was also popular.

The crab feast was also reported to be a success for the approximately 60 people who attended. The number of crabs was just right as all but a few were lustily consumed. Plenty of beer and other drinks were downed, but no one got out of control.

The action plan to soon replace one of the sailboats in our fleet (i.e., Anna) was discussed. Ulla Buchholz and Howard Needham found a used Flying Scot sailboat in excellent condition and, for the sake of expediency (and not to lose the opportunity), they purchased it; the club will in turn purchase it from them.

Charlene reported that all 2021 club merchandise has sold out!

Club finances are much better than last year and are equivalent to the same calendar time as in pre-pandemic years.

The **September meeting (9/9/2021)** was held in the backyard of the home of Vice Commodore Matthias Lingemann and his wife Judy. After consuming much good food (including especially the chicken and sausages that grillmaster Matthias cooked on the spot) and drink, items discussed included:

Virtual Happy Hours are on at least a temporary hiatus, but may commence again during the cold winter months.

The August Fun Sail was cancelled because of a small craft advisory. Ryszard Pluta will organize and, weather permitting, run a fun sail on September 25th.

A number of participants in the Labor Day weekend cruise reported that five bigger boats participated and that everyone had a fun time. Ruth Poulin announced that there are plans to organize a cruise for the long Indigenous Peoples' Day weekend in October; details will be sent out soon.

Charlene raised the possibility of collecting and posting photos taken by members of club sailing and other activities on the club's web site; we will work to make this happen.

Conditions of the boats were discussed. Four boats are currently operational. One boat, Mariah, is temporarily out of service while repairs are made to its forestay. The replacement boat has been purchased by the club from Ulla and Howard, but paperwork still needs to be done regarding its title and the club will not be able to put this boat into service until next spring. (Contributions to the boat replacement fund are welcome.)

On one day in mid- to late-October, a work day, pending permission from David Neff, will be conducted by volunteering club members. Work to be done will likely include painting the outside of our shed, among other things; more details to follow in the near future.

Get in your charters during the beautiful autumn days.

The next planning meeting will be held on October 14th, location still to be determined.

Commodore Chris

Dear Members and Friends,

On the evening of **Thursday, October 14th, 2021**, a most enjoyable planning meeting was held on the backyard patio of members (and wonderful hosts) Herb and Nancy Geller.

The business portion of the meeting covered the following topics:

Club finances — the bank balance is currently comparable to the same time of year in each of the past 3 years.

Chartering — boats are being used at high levels on the weekends, when the weather has permitted, but often then for on-the-water lessons. It would be great if more lessons on the boats could be given on weekdays, but both instructors and students have found it difficult in this and prior years to accomplish that.

Membership — 162 people have registered and paid for membership this year (and this number includes this year's students), which is similar to the numbers in each of the prior 3 years.

Communications with NIHSA community — we have a mailchimp listserve service used to communicate with more than 500 people, which includes both members and other interested persons, and we have an NIH listserve, which includes only the email addresses of current members. It was pointed out that NIHSA leaders should use the mailchimp listserve for more general communications to the community of members (present and past), friends of the club, and other interested persons. I, as commodore, had over the past few months been sending most communications only to members via the NIHSA NIH listserve. I will revert to sending my communications to the broader audience via mailchimp.

Photos on NIHSA web site and social media sites — at the September planning meeting, we discussed how to share and post photos of club activities. On the NIHSA web site, there is a link to a "Gallery" of photos (not many and rather dated); on that Gallery web page, there is a link to a Flickr web page, which contains a few more photos (not many, not annotated, and also dated). There is also a NIHSA Facebook page, but it currently doesn't have much content or activity. Long-time club member Anne Hardman has managed the Facebook for many years (with Rich Potter and Andi Balbo as back-ups) and we are grateful to her for doing so, but she would now like to step aside from that role and have someone else in the club take it over. A proposal to have a social media chairperson for the club was raised; this matter will be addressed and hopefully resolved at the November planning meeting on October 30th.

Virtual Happy Hours — the club's social activities chairperson, Gerry Bouffard, asked (through me) if we should start having the virtual Happy Hours again in the colder months. Attendees were enthusiastic about starting them again. At first, we thought to have the first one on October 28th (a virtual masked Halloween party like last year), but then Peter Preusch offered to have the November planning meeting around that time, which has since been scheduled for Saturday, October 30th, at his house (invitation has already been sent). We will take up the matter of if and when to start holding virtual happy hours at the November (October 30th) planning meeting.

Fun Sails — Ryszard Pluta led a Fun Sail on September 25th, but there ended up being light winds and only one crew/boat. Nevertheless, Ryszard gave the participants an excellent clinic on light-wind sailing. Thank you, Ryszard!

Cruises — Ruth Poulin reported that several yachts and crews sailed the bay for the club's Indigenous People's Day weekend cruise and they had a great time. There will not be a Veterans' Day cruise because (with Veterans' Day being on a Thursday) there is no Veterans' Day (long) weekend this year.

Regattas — the exciting action and results of the September (19th) regatta were discussed (already disseminated in a report from member Dennis Seufferling) as were the results of the October (2nd) HotShot Regatta (details to be disseminated by responsible persons later).

Mention of ceremony for deceased member David Rabuck on October 26th at Gate of Heaven Cemetery (details provided by David's widow, Victoria Gorska-Rabuck [vgorska@hotmail.com]).

Workday at Selby Bay Sailing Center (SBSC) — plan for volunteers to paint the outside of the club's shed and the inside of the head at SBSC on October 23rd.

That is all.

Commodore Chris

Dear Members,

A most enjoyable planning party was held last night (**Saturday, October 30, 2021**) at the home of Peter and Peggy Preusch! We thank them very much for their hospitality (and the two photos below).

A brief business session was conducted towards the end of the party. The items discussed were as follows:

1. An emergency request for volunteers to help clean up the mess at Selby Bay Sailing Center (resulting from the recent flooding there) on Sunday morning (i.e., today) was made. (Result: about a dozen members worked through the morning to clean our shed and its contents, the grounds in front of the dock, the head, the picnic patio, and the floor and contents of the main SBSC shed. The work went well and successfully, and the effort on the part of volunteers from the club was very much appreciated by David Neff, who served us coffee and cake for breakfast and delicious home-made chili and bread — as we could eat — for lunch.)
2. A proposal from the NIHSA leadership was presented by yours truly to: a) leave the membership fees at the same dollar values (i.e., \$60 for full, \$30 for associate, \$15 for social, and \$120 for sponsoring memberships) in 2022; b) leave the price for the 2022 sailing course(s) at \$260 per student, but now have each and every student separately (i.e., also) pay \$60 for full membership at the same time (i.e., meaning that the cost of membership will no longer be included in the course fee/payment); and c) increase the fee for chartering a sailboat for a half weekday from \$12 to \$14 and for chartering a sailboat for a half weekend day from \$24 to \$28. Attending members discussed the proposal and all seemed to be enthusiastic. Charlene Schramm made a motion re: item c, requesting that the club instead increase the fee for chartering a sailboat for a half weekday from \$12 to \$15 and for chartering a sailboat for a half weekend day from \$24 to \$30. Attending members reacted overwhelming positively to this modification of the proposal. The proposal with the above amendment was motioned, seconded, and unanimously approved. The club will implement the ratified changes in 2022.
2. The next (i.e., December) planning meeting will most likely be virtual, but how exactly we will hold that meeting has not yet been settled — details will be forthcoming by the end of November. Nota bene — the slate of officers for 2022 will be presented and voted upon at that meeting and the line up of activity chairpersons will also be presented.

Thank you,  
Commodore Chris

Dear Members and Friends of the NIHSA,

A wonderful December/holiday planning party was held at the Selby Bay Sailing Center yesterday afternoon (**Sunday, December 12, 2021**).

It was very sunny and not too cold or windy. About thirty people attended.

Matthias set up two wood-burning fire pits (one his and one being Jana's) and Altan and Ruth set up a propane-burning fire pit on the gravel in front of the marina's main shed. The fire pits were arranged at the points of a triangle and it was comfortable for us to sit and stand around them whenever we wanted to do so. Lots of good food and drink were brought and consumed. Matthias augmented the good cheer by serving hot mulled wine and also a non-alcohol-containing version.

The business of the club was successfully conducted.

There was a drawing for door prizes and six were awarded.

Five Club Rookies Extraordinaire were recognized (with all but one in absentia) for their high levels of participation in and contribution to activities of the club during their first year of membership — they are:

Colleen Bollin  
Ryan Fickes  
Ann Geiger  
Ming Ward  
Nas Zahir

The contributions of the activity chairpersons of the club in 2021 were recognized — most of the chairpersons will continue in their roles in 2022, but the new commodore will identify and recruit members to fill a few vacant and new positions sometime early in the new year.

The contributions of the officers of the club in 2021 were recognized.

The HotShot Regatta trophy was presented to the 2021 winners — Antonio Rebelo (captain), Silvina Horovitz (crew), and Christian Camacho (crew — in absentia).

A Statement of Recognition and Gratitude was made on behalf of the officers and members of the club by the commodore (me) to the owner of the Selby Bay Sailing Center (SBSC), David Neff, for the superb sailing home, support, and services that he provides to the NIHSA, its boats, and its members. It was acknowledged that David goes above and beyond the contractual arrangement and often provides extra help, knowledge, and guidance to us as an organization and to many of us as individuals (even sometimes to us as sailors in distress and not just in need). A gift of appreciation was given by the club to David.

The Commodore's Award was given to Steve Bailey for his super dedicated and outstanding service as fleet captain over the past 3 years. A gift of appreciation was given by the club to Steve.

Milt Axley, on behalf of the club's nominating committee (which also includes Peter Preusch, Jana Blaskova, Nas Zahir, and Ann Geiger), presented the slate of officer candidates for 2022. The candidates presented were:

For commodore — Matthias Lingemann  
For vice commodore — Betsy Furlong  
For rear commodore — Steve Bailey  
For fleet captain — Dennis Seuferling  
For secretary — Ulla Buchholz  
For treasurer — Andi Balbo

A vote was conducted and the candidates were unanimously voted into their respective officer positions.

I presented the commodore burgee to the commodore-elect (Matthias) and he presented the past commodore burgee to the current/outgoing commodore (me). Matthias — for himself, the other current officers (Betsy, Steve, Ulla,

Andi), and the current past commodore (Jana) — presented me some wonderful gifts, including a beautiful large carry bag made from the sailcloth of an old club Flying Scot sail, and then he made statements of thanks to me as well as comments about the club and its wonderful members.

Wishing you all a wonderful holiday season!

Sincerely yours,  
Commodore Chris

P.S., club merchandising chairperson Charlene Schramm sold a lot of club apparel and she also showed (on a laptop screen) possible designs for 2022 apparel. Thanks to Charlene for all of her efforts! Be ready in 2022 to weigh in on the designs and then to order your new and fashionable NIHSA hats, tee shirts, polos, fleeces, hoodies, etc.