

would have been a loss. The group asked Jay if he has spoken with Bruce. Could an electronic copy be archived on the website somewhere for historical purposes or in case of a re-print. Jay will speak with Bruce.

- There was discussion about the rising cost of the newsletter. Can't the Association sustain publishing 2 Mastheads per year. There was discussion about reducing the size or again making one of the two electronic only. There is a need to still have print as they are given out to promote the class. Jay will put together a budget so we can plan ahead.
- There was discussion about how to handle the folks who have pre-ordered a book, but have not sent in the payment. They set a deadline & will notify those who have not paid.

Secretary's Report: Wendy Goodwin:

- **Shields Coffee Table Book:** I've made friends with the local postal workers. The class shipped out 121 Shields books during the holiday season. We have 29 books in inventory. The good news is that if the book was not ready to ship by the holidays I think our sales would have been much less.

Jay will chime in more carefully regarding the cost/lack of profit of the book. Complimentary copies were ahead of time negotiated with major contributors as we were concerned the book would not have the content we were looking for. These complimentary copies secured good content. It has been suggested we consider/encourage a contributor to supply books for each established yacht club to promote the class & the book. I have books on display for sale here at CCSB & will bring them to boatshows & to Nationals in the fall if any remain.

Corny (Glit) Shields called Com to thank him for the complimentary copy of the book. There was a question as to whether he was on the list of folks to receive Masthead newsletters. Wendy will make sure he is on the list.

- **Masthead** The last masthead was sent out using an old database/address list. I had updated but was unaware that the printer/distributor didn't have access to the revisions. The next masthead will be sent using an up to date list.

Measurer's Report:

- There were questions sent to the committee with regard to a sanctioned race & are boats with roller furling & loose footed accepted to race in sanctioned races. Now: only pure Shields/legal Shields can race in sanctioned races. The question was raised & needs to be discussed if other boats, or modified boats can join in sanctioned races to qualify.
- The Newport fleet asked about their Friday night aloha series as there may be some who would like to race/attend but should the fleet require the attendee to pay National dues. This race is to help ease new members into Shields sailing by just sailing main & jib in hopes that new members "get hooked". The fleet was told if they would like the Aloha Series to be counted as a sanctioned race then all attendees would have to have paid dues. The fleet decided to have the members pay Nationals dues.
- There was discussion about struggles to keep attendance/fleet membership up & the quality of the racing & boats maintained to class legal status. There was discussion about how to keep fleets growing. The class rules have always been: fleets can do what they want to make it fun & easy but attendees to the nationals must continue to attend 10 sanctioned Shields races each summer in order to qualify for the Nationals regatta.

New Business:

- 1. 2017 Nationals Bid:** Fleet 19, Masons Island sent in a bid. They ran a terrific event in 2010. Com encouraged everyone to read the bid & come up with questions for fleet 19 at the next meeting. There was a questions as to whether fleet 8 may also put in a bid. 1 bid or 2? That is the question. There were suggestions that the host of 2017 consider the regatta be held on a Friday/Saturday/Sunday as this will allow for more crew availability as they only need to take 1 day off from work. The group agreed to ask fleet 19 to consider. Larchmont & Newport both considered making this change but there were conflicts with other events preventing them from making the switch. Newport decided on a date that connected with a holiday weekend to each the driving headache. The goal with this is to make it easy for all people to attend. Note: Etchells, Solings & Atlantics are all hosting their Nationals Friday/Saturday/Sunday now. Folks hosting the future Shields Nationals please speak with those on the Governing board & consider.
- 2. 2015 Nationals Newport, RI Sept 8-12 Hosted by Ida Lewis Yacht Club:** Robbie Benjamin wanted one more look at the NOR & they plan to post it on Friday Jan 16th. Robbie & Com will get together to discuss protest protocol & what to expect. There was discussion about arbitration & how many protests there were in Larchmont in 2014. How quickly we forget as the members on the call recalled some of the protests in Larchmont. Newport is working hard to put on a great event!
- 3. 2015 Ocean Great Lakes Challenge: May 1-3** Eric & Garth were on the call & spoke about how this will be an opportunity to everyone to familiarize themselves for the 2016 Nationals. The NOR for the O.G.L.C. is on the website & Larchmont reports they will send a crew to attend. Skippers were encouraged to sign up & work out the crew later. Monterey even could supply crew if need be. 8 boats will be available for charter. The defending champion will be racing. Not only will this be good practice for the competitors, but Monterey will use this as practice for hosting/running the regatta as well. They have formed a 2016 Nationals committee so they look forward to hosting the O.G.L.C. & the Nationals.
- 4. Nominating committee for a 2015 slate:** Richard Robbins secured George Gardner as a member for the nominating committee. Two more folks are needed. Mike Schwartz, Fred Werblow & Skip Maguire were all suggested. There is a deadline of August but they group is encouraged to form & start early. Betsy Yale will look & see if a Newport person could also participate. She will ask John Burnham.

Reminder:

2015 Great Lakes Ocean Challenge May 1, 2 &3, 2015 <http://www.shieldsclass.com/2015gloc/nor2015.pdf>
2015 Shields Nationals-Newport, RI: September 10-12, 2015 <http://www.shieldsclass.com/2015/>
2016 Monterey, CA
2017 Now accepting bids

Our next meeting is: Tuesday, February 10th, 8pm Eastern Time

Respectfully Submitted,

Wendy J. Goodwin
Shields Class Secretary