

Shields Class Association Governing Board phone conference 1-21-14:

Members in attendance:

Com Crocker- President Larchmont (fleet 1)
Wendy Goodwin- Secretary Marion (fleet 10)
Kristian Martincic- Tech Comm. Chicago (fleet 3)
Jay Dayton-Treasurer Oxford (fleet 21)
Richard Robbins-Marion (fleet 10)

Betsy Yale-Newport Hosting Nationals 2015(fleet9)
Chris Wick-Masons Island (fleet 19)
Eric Anderson-Monterey (fleet 12)
John Mawe Larchmont (fleet 1)

Presidents Report: Com Crocker: Thank you for calling in & joining us. All of the committees have been progressing over the last few weeks & months. Have you seen the Masthead that was mailed recently? Great job Richard Slaughter and fleet 21 for putting together a great Shields Masthead. Plans for the 2014 Shields Nationals in Larchmont are progressing. The group working on the Shields Registry continue to learn the history of specific boats & locate some that have been lost in our registry. They are also working on the definition of what defines an institutional fleet. Jan Slee has also been working with the Larchmont fleet regarding sponsorship & they have secured a local brewery as a sponsor.

Treasurers Report:

Since accepting the office of Shields Class Treasurer in November, I have been working with Fred Werblow (previous Treasurer), Com Crocker, Pres. and Wendy Goodwin, Sec. to understand the responsibilities and duties of my new position. Many thanks to Fred for his service & knowledge.

I have communicated often with Com and Wendy to decide how we should proceed this year regarding our Class funds, expanding methods of payment for membership and how we might proceed in establishing a more formal presence as an entity for our Class.

We decided that it was necessary to proceed with several initiatives. With the able assistance of Gogy Irving of Fleet #21, we filed with the IRS for a Federal ID# and have completed and filed application for a Tax Exempt status 501 C 7, Social Club or Association. Thank you very much Gogy.

Wendy has been instrumental in pursuing ways to help grow our membership by possibly entering into relationships with PayPal & Regatta Network and we are having additional discussions about other methods for making it easier for payment of membership dues for our Class. More to follow...

INCOME: (Beginning 12/31/2013) **\$23,198.90**
(Balance transferred from Fred Werblow and deposited at PNC Bank, Easton, MD)

EXPENSES:

Laser Letters, Inc., Easton, MD (Fall MASTHEAD Publication) (Paid 12/31/13)	(-\$2,904.20)
Bonnier Corp (Harken/Shields Class Sailing World Ad (Paid 01/15/14)	(-\$ 750.00)
Internal Revenue Service - Tax Exempt 501 C 7 Filing (Paid 01/17/14)	(-\$ 400.00)

Current Account Balance: **\$19,144.70**

Respectfully Submitted,
Jay Dayton, Class Treasurer,
Fleet #21

Secretary's Report: The reading of the minutes from our last meeting was waived. Wendy reports that there were some Mastheads returned as the addresses were old or the member did not renew membership & moved. We will need to determine a cut-off date so "bad addresses" will be culled from the active membership list. We send Mastheads to non-current members as a courtesy to see if they will re-join, but the returns are costing the Association \$. We will follow up with the fleet captains to get current addresses or label them as inactive.

Please see below for recent Regatta Network research. The deadline for getting your bids in to host Nationals is February 1.

Technical Committee Report: Kristian announced his slate of members for the measurement committee: Schuyler Benson, Bam Miller, Bill Berry, Mike Vellucci, Garth Hobson & Rich Robbins (advisor). The group voted & this slate passed unanimously. There are currently 2 items up for discussion:

1. Loose footed Jib
2. Formal proposal for toerail.

Kristian will send us details shortly. Please consider new topics for the group to consider/explore. They haven't had a conference call yet, but correspondence by e-mail.

New & Old Business:

Membership:

Wendy Communicated with Regatta Network & learned the Association needs to budget \$348 per year for them to host our Membership. The driving force here is 3-fold: 1. Dues can be paid electronically through pay pall. 2. The system can be set up to auto renew memberships. 3. Members will update their own contact information as opposed to the fleet reps/treasurers chasing after them.

Regatta Network is run by US Sailing. There are no additional fees unless a host fleet decides to use the regatta portion of the site for registration. What this means is all the membership data can be shared from association to host fleet so there is less set up for the host. They don't have to use Regatta Network, but they can if they want. A few years back the Beverly Yacht Club went this route for registration of local races & for scoring. This assured the race committee chair could sleep at night....

The next step is to sit through a tutorial, attend one of their brown bag sessions. We also need to communicate with our fleet captains & treasurers to ask for feedback as to how many would like to pay the old way & how many might pay on line. After that we will need to sign up, load the membership data and create the membership form.

There was a question as to how local fleet dues will be collected & we will find out the answer to that during the tutorials. Each local fleet charges a different amount to run local events so the dues notice will need to reflect each of those differing amounts. Regatta Network can schedule an online demo at our convenience, we can attend a brown bag session or there's a functional demo site at www.onedesigndemo.com The credentials for the membership module are included on the home page. It will show you most of the features, but remember that the form renewals and membership form are all based on the form the Association creates so there will be some set up time needed. There was a question: when would this go live: answer-not sure yet. Research is needed first.

Perpetual Trophies: There was discussion about acquiring insurance for the Class officers & for the perpetual trophies. We will need to arrange an appraisal and we also need to firm up the document/agreement between the Larchmont Yacht Club & the Association for the housing of the perpetuals. It was agreed that the following trophies will be appraised for potential to be insured: Nationals Trophy, Cap Dun, Corny Shields most improved trophy & the Institutional trophy which has been discontinued but the class still owns this. The above 4 trophies have monetary value that the class agrees need to be protected. The take a bow & the golden stern will still travel with the winners each year.

There was discussion that in 2006 the Nationals host fleet tried to research the location of 2 lost trophies (JR & SR Skipper awards) without success. These trophies are still awarded as keepers-but the perpetuals are lost. There was no record of who won these minor prizes from year to year in the Masthead so it's hard to learn where they may be. The website currently lists the winners of all the trophies, but this information only goes

back to when the website was formed. Richard will create a spreadsheet of who won what trophy when so folks don't have to click each individual regatta link to access that information. The groups will have to reach out to yacht clubs in hopes of relocating the lost trophies. In the meantime-we will continue to award keepers. The question was raised: where is the institutional trophy. We will check.

Great Lakes Challenge Cup: Mike was not on the call, so there was no new news, but Com will touch base with Mike for new details.

2014 Shields Nationals-Larchmont, NY: John Mawe reported that the NOR is up on the website & folks have signed up to attend. There will be a Legends race & history events before the racing of the Nationals to make the Class Associations 50th. The group is gathering memorabilia & please submit if you have interesting articles. The Larchmont fleet currently needs:

1. Skippers to sign up for the regatta
2. Memorabilia on the history of the class, your fleet
3. Thoughts on the Legends race
4. What can they do to help get boats to arrive/attend. The goal is to get 50 boats in the regatta.

Com & Wendy are working with Bruce Wellington from the Tred Avon fleet on a 50th Anniversary coffee table book to include the history of the class, tall tales, the different fleets, photos, the perpetual trophies & the people behind the idea, design & building of the boat. The group voted on & approved on a prelim budget of \$4,000 to fund the book & it will be for sale at the Nationals. Prices were discussed between \$20 and \$100. We will narrow down more details when the content is established. The idea was also presented that the information in the book could be presented in a video at the Nationals & on the website. Com, Wendy & Bruce will proceed.

2015 Shields Nationals-Newport, RI: Betsy reports their latest meeting was delayed-they will have more information & a confirmed regatta date shortly.

2016 Now accepting applications-deadline February 1st, 2014. Monterey has submitted it's proposal. Wendy will distribute to the committee. The Edgartown fleet has also expressed interest & will be submitting a bid.

Adding to the number of Officers: It was suggested that we create a new position to board of directors/officer of Publisher. This would allow more continuity for the Mastheads which are published twice a year. Content would still be formed by the host fleet. The group will research & vote on this next meeting.

Reminder:

2014 Shields Nationals-Larchmont, NY: Wednesday Sept 10, 2014 to Saturday Sept 13, 2014

2015 Shields Nationals-Newport, RI: Second week of September (Thurs, Fri, Sat) This date is still up in the air

2016 Now accepting applications-deadline February 1st, 2014. One bid has been received-from Monterey, CA

Our next three conference calls are:

Tuesday Feb 11th 8PM eastern time

Tuesday March 11th 8PM eastern time

Tuesday April 8th 8PM eastern time

Respectfully Submitted,

Wendy J. Goodwin
Shields Class Secretary