



# Light and Variable

May 26, 2010

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The Cherokee Lake Sailing Club News

## May 2<sup>nd</sup> race was a wild one!

Sunday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> was a great day to sail, but prudently, mind you, as winds were way up over 20 mph. Three boats ventured out onto the racecourse and committee boat captain Vic Kaminsky and his trusted assistant, William Moorefield, decided on a race to Goat Island and back. We had some minor delays as the high winds seemed to want Vic to race also. They dragged his anchored vessel downwind, but Vic got it under control. At the start, Prime time, Silver Swan, and Mariah shot downwind. Ken Curry manned Mariah's helm and Kirk and John crewed on Prime Time, while Eric, Harold, and Randal raced the Swan. As we flew downwind, Mariah kept surprisingly close to the competition, and at the turn, all three boats passed within a minute or two of each other. On the long close reach on the way back, Mariah lost a sail slug or two, but kept doggedly close to the pack, and was able to handicap into first place. Prime Time took second, and Silver Swan captured third. The corrected time between the first and last place was only 27 seconds! In my excitement to get on the lake, I managed to forget to take any pictures, but Vic Kaminsky took the excellent photos shown above. Thanks Vic! Spring series race results are shown below.

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### CLSC Spring series race results

	3/28 RAINED OUT	4/11	4/17 Wyss	4/24/25 RAINED OUT	5/2	6/6	6/13
<b>Barham</b>		0.75					
<b>Curry</b>			3				
<b>Kaminsky</b>					CB		
<b>Moorefield</b>		CB					
<b>Robison</b>							
<b>Roline</b>					3		
<b>Roline Presto</b>		3					
<b>Turner</b>			2				
<b>Walter</b>			0.75		0.75		
<b>Wyss</b>		2			2		

**CLSC completes the Fourteenth Tortuga trip**

Six Cherokee Lake Sailing Club members traveled to Charlotte Harbor, Florida where they chartered an Island Packet 40 named *It's a Dream* from Yachting Vacations located at the Burnt Store Marina. Under the able Captainship of Harold Duggin, the crew began the voyage on Sunday morning and traveled a bumpy course overnight a distance of 170 nautical miles to Key West, arriving there on Monday afternoon. After



*Beautiful Key West*



*It's a Dream sits ready in Key West*

docking at the Galleon Marina, the crew hit the showers and then hit Key West, staying Monday and Tuesday evenings. Key West was bristling with the royal poinsettia trees (orange in the picture) in full bloom. Orchids and hibiscus blooms were everywhere. We had some great meals, did some shopping, and watched the performers at Mallory square. On Wednesday morning, we set sail for the Dry Tortugas National Park, some 64 miles west of the Key West North Channel outer marker, and we arrived about happy hour that afternoon. The Garden Key anchorage was full, so we anchored on the backside of the fort. True to tradition, we dined on steak, potatoes, veggies and an excellent merlot. We had a "Dugginista" dessert, consisting of a



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layer of vanilla pudding, on top of which was a layer of chocolate pudding, both of which were flavored with Grand Marnier and Bailey's Irish cr me, then topped with an Oreo cookie, whipped cream, and a splash of cr me de menthe. It was fantastic! We spent the evening snapping several hundred photos of the sun

setting at loggerhead key. On Thursday morning we visited the Fort. It now costs \$5 to visit, but the fee is good for seven consecutive days. We also had to fill out information relative to our boat and crew. Regulations now limit the number of persons visiting loggerhead key to 24 persons at one time. The Park Service will soon install mooring balls at loggerhead to protect the coral from those sailors who do not drop their anchor in sand. We indicated that we thought





it would be a great addition to the anchorage at Garden Key to install moorings. The Ranger indicated that was not in the plans, but suggested that we visit the Dry Tortugas website and make that suggestion in the comments section. I would urge each of you to do so as it would increase the capacity and safety of the Garden Key anchorage. Much cosmetic and structural renovation is ongoing. At ten ayem we held the annual meeting of the Dry Tortugas Yacht and Beach Club, placing our vacation on hold to attend to some highly important club business, then we double dingyied back to our vessel and made ready to sail. We sailed overnight 135 miles to Charlotte Harbor and motored down the ICW to Cabbage Key where we dined on Cheeseburgers in Paradise washed gently

down with a Cabbage Creeper or two. After lunch, we motored back up to Charlotte harbor to Burnt Store Marina where we refueled, pumped out, cleaned up, enjoyed a great dinner and entertainment and went to bed, traveling back to Tennessee the next day.

I have tried several times to describe what it feels like to take one of these trips, and it's difficult – more so because there are so many experiences rolled into just a few days. We have great sailing, learn new navigation skills, and we have a great time visiting new places with a great group of guys. For me though, I think the best part is the night watch. Harold and I had the first watch from 9 pm to midnight, but afterward as I lay on my bunk, I felt as if a part of my life experience was passing me by, so I got up and got a sandwich and a coke and went back up on deck. We had about half a moon, and the stars painted the night sky like a magnificent tapestry. The wind was on our beam about ten knots, and the sails silently slid us through the night. There was not a man made light in any direction. The bow of the boat rose gently with each swell and then swished back for another kiss of the gulf. Although three of us were on deck, no one spoke, as if in silent acknowledgement of the beauty that stretched out before us. I felt small, alone, vulnerable to the great power of the natural forces which were granting us passage. It was a good feeling. I went below, and slept for all of two hours, and then returned on deck for the rest of the night and looked. We did not conquer the Gulf – it simply let us go.

***Overnight Saturday, May 29th***

The CLSC is planning an overnight in Panther Creek cove on Saturday, May 29<sup>th</sup>. Please bring your own entrée and libations. Eric Roline is in charge, but, due to the impending birth of his granddaughter, probably will not be able to make the event. In any event, we will gather in the cove to the right of mile 9 at Panther Creek in the evening on Saturday. Meals and libations will be on your own. We will raft up should the mild wind conditions prevail, and enjoy the evening, and breakfast on Sunday. We will venture back to Black Oak as your schedule permits. If you have any questions, you may call me at 776-3084. That is all.



*You can sleep well tonight Cap'n - Your highly skilled, intelligent crew is awake!*

*Light and Variable*

*Cherokee Lake Sailing Club*

*551 Keeneland Blvd*

*Seymour, Tennessee 37865*



***We will overnight this weekend on Saturday night.***