



## March 2013 Newsletter

“Training Macomb County's Future Sailors”

[www.northstarjrsailing.org](http://www.northstarjrsailing.org) OR [northstarjrsailing@gmail.com](mailto:northstarjrsailing@gmail.com)

**Spring is on it's way! Soon we will all be back on the water.**

### **In this newsletter:**

**Noteworthy News**

**Annual Fund Update**

**Charity Poker Events**

**ILYA's Junior Bay Week**

**2013 GPYC USODA Nationals**

**College Scholarship Opportunity**

**DRYA Opti Racing Practice Clinic**

**DRYA Regatta Schedule**

**Upcoming Events**

**Contact List**

**Donation Letter and Pledge Form**

## Noteworthy News

We are still finalizing our plans for the 2013 season! We are currently interviewing for our 2013 staff. Thus far, we've had an excellent field of candidates! Oh, such a good problem to have!

US Sailing National Sailing Programs Symposium was held this year in Clearwater, FL January 24-26. Nickie Kowal attended to represent NSJS as well as fellow NSSC Members Dan VandenBossche and PC Jim Rodgers. It was 3 days of information packed breakout sessions and networking opportunities. Thankfully, there were 3 of us there to "divide and conquer" since there were so many things we all wanted to see and hear, it was as close as possible we could get to cloning ourselves.

On Friday, February 15, Jr Sailing presented our 2013 program to the NSSC Bridge and Flag officers. Thank you to all who attended and continue to offer your support and encouragement! Our presentation included information about our 2012 and 2013 budget, as well as what the program offerings will be for the upcoming season. Our Youth Learn to Sail will continue to be 5 day per week sessions over 2 weeks with 3 sessions offered for 2013. We will offer the "Sailors" (intermediate) program for 5 days this year over one month sessions. Our Race program will also run for 5 day per week in both half and full season sessions. Please see our website for further information [www.northstarjrsailing.org](http://www.northstarjrsailing.org).

On Saturday February 16, Gary Jobson gave a talk about his experiences Team Racing for the Youth of the DRYA and HS Sailing circuit. Despite the snow and inclement weather, the kids in attendance were totally mesmerized by his talk. He is always a very charismatic speaker, but he "wowed" the kids on a whole different level. Thank you Mr. Jobson, for a memorable evening!

## **Annual Fund Update**

We have raised close to \$12,000 thus far. Because of the generosity the friends of NSJS and members of NSSC, we have reached 50% of our fundraising goal to be able to replace 4 of our program boats: two Optimist and two 420 fleet sailboats. Thank you to Bill Wildner and family for their generous donation of \$10,000 which will purchase a 420 and an Opti for our program. Bill has decided to name the Opti "Wild Child" in honor of the Opti his son sailed during his Jr. Sailing years; the sponsored 420 yet remains to be named. We are also looking forward to putting two wooden "trainers" into service for our Youth Learn to Sail program--a project we commissioned with a local Eagle Scout.

## **Charity Poker Events**

We continue to work charity poker events in efforts to raise money. It is becoming more and more challenging to find suitable venues as the State of Michigan has been becoming stricter with the poker halls and gaming licenses as a response to powerful casino lobbies in Lansing. Finding volunteers has been another challenge and we continue to tap into our pool of parents and friends. Our next charity poker event will be May 7-10 from 11am-6pm at The River on Van Dyke and 22 Mile Road. We raised over \$3000 at our last event there this March.

## **ILYA's Junior Bay Week**

The Inter-Lake Yachting Association will be holding their 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Junior Bay Regatta at Put-in-Bay July 21 -26, 2013. Junior Bay is a unique regatta—the largest of the events in the Area. Each year, approximately 165 sailors gather at Put-in-Bay for fun, camaraderie, education, and, of course, racing. They hope that local club's junior teams will join them. It is during the PH to Mac week when most programs are not in session. For more information please go to the following link:

**<http://i-lya.org/pages/junior-sailing/junior-bay-week.php>**

## 2013 GPYC USODA Nationals

This summer our junior sailors have a great opportunity available to them to attend and participate in a National Competition, the US Optimist Dinghy Association Nationals.

They will be held at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club July 6-14, 2013.

For more information please go to the following link:

<http://usodanationals-2013.org/regatta-info.html>

**2013 GPYC USODA NATIONALS**  
July 6 – 14  
Lake St. Clair, Michigan

USODA INFO  
RACE RESULTS  
NEWS & UPDATES  
SCHEDULE  
GEAR STORE

**PARDON OUR DUST**  
While our web site is under construction

**GPYC to host prestigious USODA National Youth Regatta in July 2013**

From July 6–14, 2013, the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club has the honor of hosting more than 400 young sailors, ages 8–15, their families and officials for the prestigious United States Optimist Dinghy Association (USODA) National Championships. Visit us regularly for updated event information and opportunities to support this exciting event.

RACE	CHECK-IN DATE	RACE DAY
TEAM	Sat., July 6	Sun. – Tue. July 7, 8, 9
GIRLS	Tue., July 9	Wed. July, 10
CHAMPIONSHIPS	Wed., July 10	Thur. – Sun. July 11, 12, 13, 14
GREEN FLEET	Wed., July 10	Thur. – Sun. July 11, 12, 13, 14

## College Scholarship Opportunity

**Attention: DRYA high school and college sailors know that the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club Nautical Education Foundation**

**(GPYNEF) is now accepting applications to award their 2013 Scholarships!**

For 2013, the Foundation will again be accepting applications for \$1,000 scholarships to college. The evaluation criteria will encompass three areas, an essay section, a sailing participation and leadership section and a scholastic section. To base the evaluation on equal footing, only sailing experiences up to midyear of a candidate's high school senior year will be used for the evaluation process. To comply with the requirements of the Inter-Collegiate Sailing Association (ICSA) rules, the GPYNEF scholarship will not consider "sailing ability" in the award criteria, as if it did, this would disallow the awardee from competition in college sailing.

It is anticipated that **up to 10 scholarships** will be awarded in May 2013 and the application information and forms are available on the Foundation website, <http://www.gpynef.org>. **Applications will be accepted until April 24, 2013. Recipients of the scholarships will be notified by May 10, 2013 and an award ceremony will be conducted on May 19, 2013.**

We are very fortunate to have the support of GPYNEF. Let's encourage our DRYA Junior Sailors to apply for these scholarships. Also, all DRYA Sailors that applied last year and did not win are eligible to re-apply for 2013.

**GOOD LUCK TO ALL WHO APPLY!!**

# DRYA Opti Team Racing Clinic & Opti Racing Practice Series

Opti Team Racing Clinic: May 11-12, Crescent Sail Club

Opti Racing Spring Practice Series: Times & Dates to be Announced at Clinic



**Clinic Dates**  
May 11-12 (Sat-Sun)

**Clinic Times**  
10:00 am - 4:00 pm,  
Saturday  
11:00 - 4:00 pm,  
Sunday

**Clinic Cost**  
Free to DRYA Opti Junior  
Racing  
Sailors

**Other Details**  
This is both a classroom &  
on water instruction clinic.  
Please ensure that you Opti  
Sailor has their boat, dolly  
and other sailing equipment  
at CSYC prior to clinic start.

The CSYC gate will open at  
8:00 am on Saturday.  
Participants may bring  
their boats and equipment  
to CSYC as early as 8:00 am  
Saturday.

**Registration**  
Please email Barb Seelk the  
name and age of your Opti  
sailor at  
[barbseelkdrya@gmail.com](mailto:barbseelkdrya@gmail.com)  
no later than May 4, 2013.

**Questions?**  
Contact Barb Seelk at  
[barbseelkdrya@gmail.com](mailto:barbseelkdrya@gmail.com)



**Name:** Charles Higgins  
**College:** Old Dominion  
**Position:** Asst. Coach  
**Experience:** 5th Season

Please join us on May 11-12 for an informative  
Opti Team Racing Clinic at CSYC. If your Opti  
Sailor is considering attending the USODR  
Championships this summer at GPYC, this free  
clinic is for you!

## About Coach Higgins...

Charles Higgins enters his fifth year as an assistant coach at his alma mater in the 2012-13 season. He returned to ODU three years ago to continue his collegiate coaching career after one year of coaching at the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy in King's Point. Higgins was an impact sailor in his career at Old Dominion as a leader in Team Racing and Sloop sailing.

While coaching at the USMMA the team had an ICSA Women's Singlehanded National Championship Qualifier and the co-ed team also qualified for the ICSA Coed National Championship in the Spring of 2008. Before his term in New York, Higgins coached at Norfolk Collegiate High School where the team won the 2006 Fall District Championship.

As a sailor at ODU, Higgins earned a trip to the MAISA Singlehanded Championships in each of his final three seasons.

He earned national championship experience his junior season, as he helped the team finish sixth at the ICSA Dinghy National Championship in the Spring. As a senior, he won the A division sailing at the War Memorial Regatta and posted nine Top Ten finishes as a versatile asset to the program.

Higgins has continued sailing since his graduation and won the Vanguard 15 Class National Championship in 2006, leading to an invitation to the US Sailing Championship of Champions in San Diego where he finished fifth. He also won the U.S. Team Race Association midwinter championship in 2008.

Charles graduated from Old Dominion with a degree in Business Management in 2006 and currently resides in Norfolk.

DRYA would like to thank CSYC & GPYNEP for their generous support in sponsoring this event.

## DRYA 2013 Regatta Schedule

5/11-12	DRYA Opti Racing Practice Mid May Launch
6/15	DRYA Small Boat Regatta CSYC
6/17	Junior Sailing Begins
6/18	Coaches Preseason Debrief Crescent 7pm
6/19	US Sailing Rules/Mock Protest Clinic: BYC by Al Declerq and Ed Theisen
6/25-26	BYC Season Opener Regatta
6/27	BYC Bemis Smythe Quarter Finals Regatta
7/1-2	PYC Opti Laser O'Pen Bic Regatta includes Team Racing
7/3	PYC Sears Quarter Finals Regatta Daytime event
7/6-14	GPYC USODA Opti Nationals
7/7-9	GIYC Sears Bemis Smythe Semi Finals Regatta
7/12	GPC 420 Team Racing
7/16-17	GPC Opti/O'Pen Bic Regatta
7/16-17	NSSC 420 Regatta
7/22-26	NO SAILING-PH To MAC
7/30-7/31	CSYC Regatta
8/1	GPYC Regatta
8/6-7	DYC RiverChamps/Mini Mac
8/6	DYC Coaches' Debrief-Tentative
8/8	DRYA Awards Banquet at DYC

Please notice that in July GPYC is hosting the **USODA (US Optimist Dinghy Association) Opti Nationals**. This presents a great opportunity for our kids to participate in a National Competition so close to home. More info to follow in upcoming newsletters!

## 2013 Upcoming Events

(see calendar at [www.northstarjrsailing.org](http://www.northstarjrsailing.org))

Mar 20	DRYA Seminar “New Sailing Rules”	BYC
Mar 27	DRYA Seminar “Heavy and Light Air Sailing”	FYC
May 7-10	Charity Poker at The River	11am-6pm
May 18-19	Annual Boater to Boater Sale	10am-4pm
May 19	NSJS Open House and Registration	
June 10-July 1	Adult Learn to Sail	
June 17	NSJS Program Begins	
July 16-17	NSSC 420 Regatta	
July 21-26	ILYA's Junior Bay Week	
July 22-26	Mackinac Break Week	
Aug 3	End of Season Paper Plate Awards Party	
Aug 5-26	Adult Learn to Sail	
Aug 9	Program Ends	

Watch **NSJS and NSSC Websites** for additional events!  
[www.northstarjrsailing.org](http://www.northstarjrsailing.org) and [www.northstarsail.org](http://www.northstarsail.org) Join North Star  
Junior Sailing on Facebook!



## Contact Information Officers/Committee Chairs

**President** Nickie Kowal [sailingamethyst@gmail.com](mailto:sailingamethyst@gmail.com)

**Vice President** Ed Francis [dashing.wave@comcast.net](mailto:dashing.wave@comcast.net)

**Secretary** LoriAnn Schroeder [kauaidreams@att.net](mailto:kauaidreams@att.net)

**Treasurer** Blair Arden [NSJS@att.net](mailto:NSJS@att.net)

**Newsletter Editor** LoriAnn Schroeder [kauaidreams@att.net](mailto:kauaidreams@att.net)

**Program Director** TBA

**Director of Marketing/Recruitment** Jake Wolny [jacob.j.wolny@erac.com](mailto:jacob.j.wolny@erac.com)

**Website** Tary and Ron Rabine [littlehips@aol.com](mailto:littlehips@aol.com)

\*Don't forget to check the website often for updates

[www.northstarjrsailing.org](http://www.northstarjrsailing.org)

## **North Star Junior Sailing Donation Request**

Greetings from Junior Sailing!

The 2012 Sailing season has come and gone. It's hard to believe that we are doing our annual end-of-the-year "ask" again for a new fundraiser. On behalf of the Board of Directors of North Star Junior Sailing, we are writing to ask you to consider a year-end donation to North Star Junior Sailing, to support the future of your sport and passion.

Thanks to your generosity last year, we were able to outfit 3 of our powerboats with new engines and fund an Eagle Scout project to build 2 wooden pram trainers for our Youth Learn to Sail Program (coming in 2013). We also tried something a bit unorthodox for us last year and that was to ask for boat sponsorships. Thank you to Laurie Hurite for her generous funding for a new Laser "Take 2" and an anonymous donor for his contribution that funded "Puff the Magic Dragon" Opti purchase.

2012 North Star Junior Sailing Facts:

We enrolled 37 "kids" during our summer program in Learn to Sail, "Sailors" (intermediate program), and our race program. We use DRYA sanctioned dinghy sailboats as our fleet: Optimist Prams, 420s, and Lasers.

Several of our Junior Sailors have continued to gain sailing experience and have been sailing as crew on several "big boats" at NSSC as well as at other yacht clubs. We had several of our "kids" crew on the Port Huron-Mackinac Race too!

We continue our relationship with the High School Sailing Team at DeLaSalle Collegiate and Regina High Schools (first high school sailing team in Macomb County!).

We ended our 2012 season ahead of budget, demonstrating our fiscal responsibility and better long-range planning.

It typically takes \$18,000-20,000 per season to run our program. This money comes from tuition and funds instructor salaries and day-to-day operating expenses.

We are highly dependent on other sources of money to make capital purchases, such as new program boats. As such, we have been working very hard at fundraising: Charity Poker Nights, Boater to Boater Sale, and direct requests for donations such as this.

The average age of our program boats is close to 20 years. Their average life expectancy is approximately 10 years. Most programs dispose of their boats at around 4-5 years. We do an excellent job at keeping our boats in service; however several of our boats are now beyond their serviceable age and condition.

At program shut down this fall, we determined that we are in dire need to replace 2-420s and 2 Optis. They are of questionable sea-worthiness and of concern to the general safety of our sailors.

This year's fundraising focus is to raise enough money to replace two 420s and 2 Optimist (Opti) Prams. A 420 typically costs \$8000 new and an Opti close to \$4000 new. We come to you with humility and an attitude of gratitude for your past generosity. We ask if you would help us raise money to purchase 4 new boats.

North Star Junior Sailing is a Michigan charitable 501C(3) corporation. Your donation is fully tax deductible (please consult with your tax advisor regarding your specific situation). If you find it in your heart to donate the entire cost of a program boat, you will have naming rights for the boat your donation purchased for the life of that boat. We have established a wall plaque that we will inscribe with your name and boat's name as a perpetual acknowledgment of your gift.

Can you help us invest in the future of Macomb County's only Junior Sailing Program? If we are not willing to invest in training our future sailors, who will? And what will happen to our sport and leisure time passion? Your generous support is deeply appreciated.

Nicolette Kowal

President

# PLEDGE CARD

**YES!** I/we want to help support North Star Junior Sailing and enclosed is my/our gift of:

Lolly Boston Fund (new boat purchases):

\_\_\_\_ Program boat sponsor: \_\_\_\_ 420 (\$8000) \_\_\_\_ Opti (\$4000)

\_\_\_\_ Other donation amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Charles "Skip" Boston Fund (summer youth program scholarships):

\_\_\_\_ Donation amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Name:

\_\_\_\_\_

Address:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Email address:

\_\_\_\_\_